surfer

+2015 HOT 100



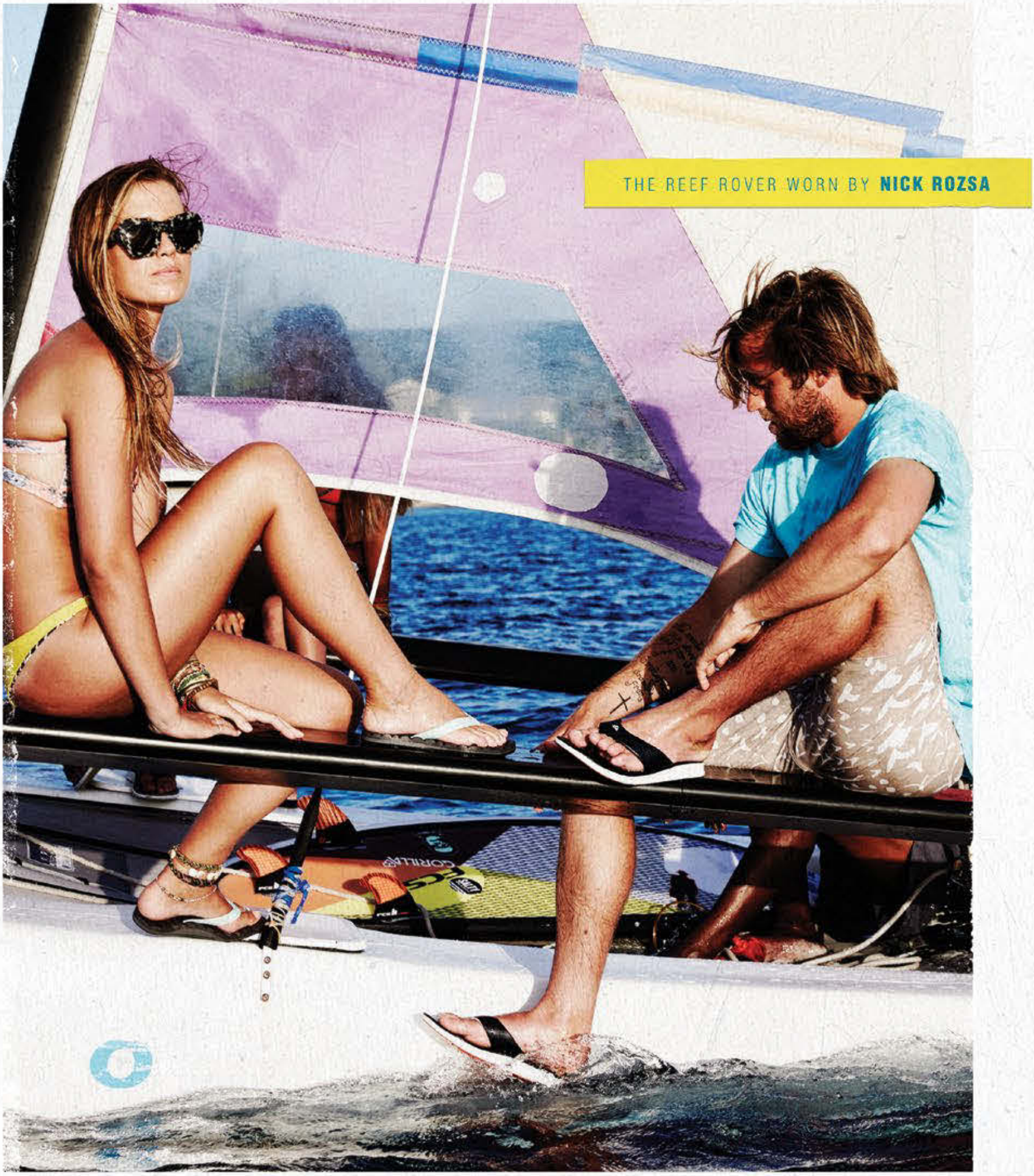
California's Dream Run

TEN THE ENTHUSIAST NETWORK™

MAY 2015


phantom
JJF ELITE
POWER
IN MOTION
WWW.HURLEY.COM





JUST PASSING THROUGH





REEF

SWELLULAR TECHNOLOGY

FEATURED IN THE REEF ROVER

THE SEA IN EVERY STEP









PHOTO: STACY



JACK ROBINSON | Lowtides | SPINNER BOARDSHORT





BILLABONG

LIFE'S BETTER IN BoardShorts



'WE SURF EVERY ~~FUCKING~~ DAY'

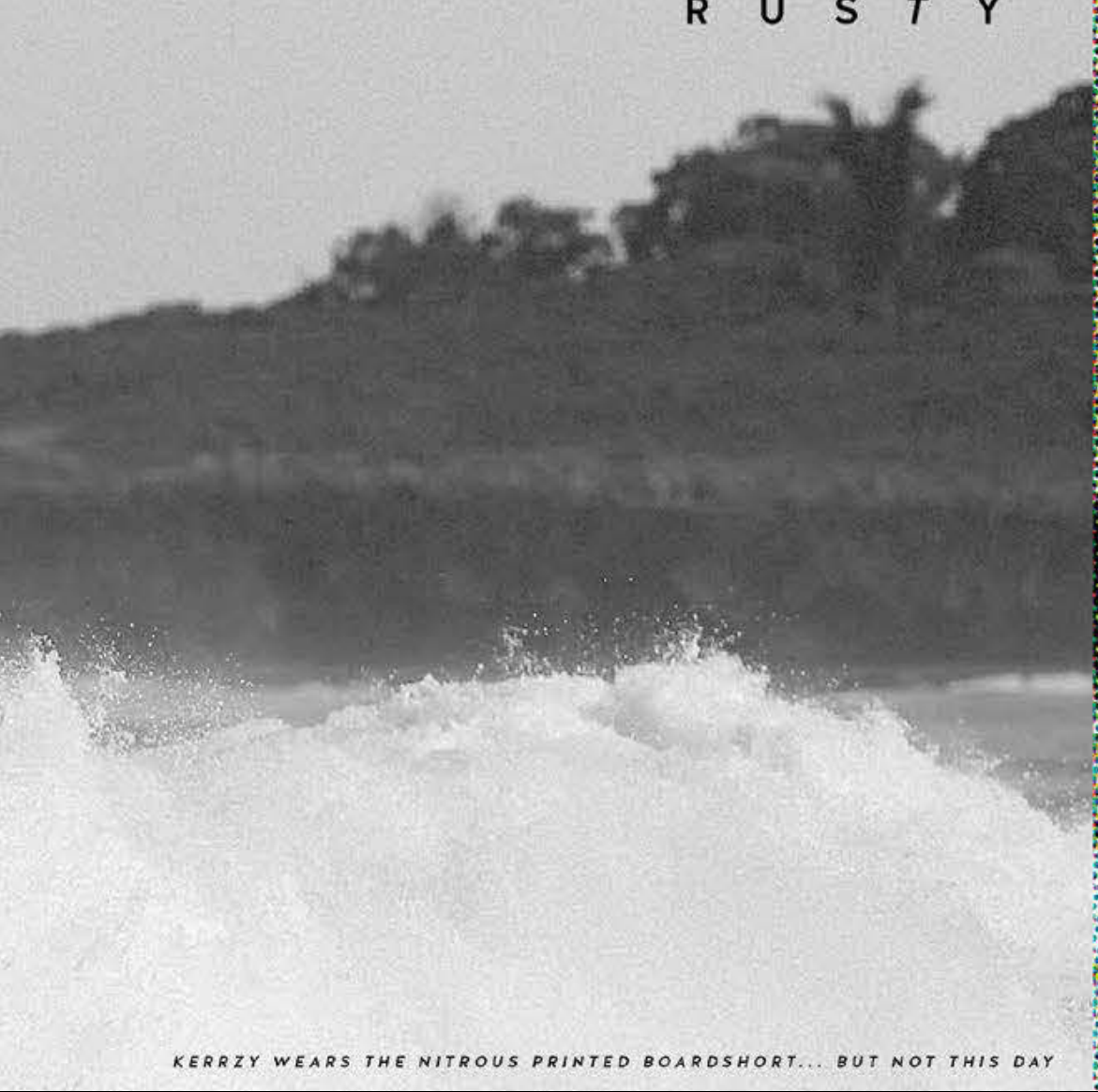
JOSH KERR / SURFER / ENTREPRENEUR

#OURKIND

RUSTY.COM

©RUSTY. AMERICA

RUSTY



KERRZY WEARS THE NITROUS PRINTED BOARDSHORT... BUT NOT THIS DAY





O'NEILL INC. 2015 O'NEILL.COM **JORDY SMITH** PHOTO: RESPONDEK

WET TO DRY UNREASONABLY FAST

O'NEILL HYPERDRY

+ QUICK DRY
+ WATER REPELLENT
+ BREATHABLE



JORDY FREAK
BOARDSHORTS



O'NEILL

UNREASONABLE EXPECTATIONS SINCE 1952

LIKE WEARING NOTHING

MIRAGE

THE ULTIMATE BOARDSHORT

SURFING IS EVERYTHING

RIP CURL
LIVE THE SEARCH

MICK WEARS MIRAGE MF DRIVEN



LIKE WEARING NOTHING

MIRAGE

THE ULTIMATE BOARDSHORT

SURFING IS EVERYTHING

RIP CURL
LIVE THE SEARCH

THE MIRAGE MF DRIVEN


RIPCURL

Photo by Andrew Shield

JAY DAVIES, MICRONESIA

For the past few months, the surf world has kept its focus trained on California and Hawaii, and for good reason. But the same swells that brought iconic breaks like Mavericks and Jaws to life also cranked more obscure waves like this up to 11 on the perfect-o-meter. "This was my second trip to Micronesia, and it was freakin' crazy," says Jay Davies (pictured here). "On this day, the swell was so perfect and consistent that every time you made it back out after a wave, you were lining up another perfect one. It never stopped for one second, and after a certain point you felt hypnotized by it. We spent the first few days getting so barreled that after the swell backed off, I pretty much hung my boots up."





Jake Marshall is one of the nicest kids you'll ever meet. He's also part of the generation tasked with saving surfing.
Photo by Kenworthy

To Save the Day

Every year around this time we run the fool's errand of ranking and ordering the next generation of surf stars. SURFER's Hot 100 is a steeplechase of Web-clip reviewing, result wrangling, and air-reverse critiquing. It is endless hours of comparing unlike entities based on disparate criteria and taking meetings with agents, team managers, and soccer parents. It's strange work, to be sure. And boy, can it make you feel shitty about yourself. It's hard to tell what's more depressing: that a 15-year-old has an agent, admitting that a child surfs better than you ever have (or ever will), or knowing that they repeatedly get to surf perfect waves that you—a hard-working professional approaching your mid-30s—still haven't had the pleasure of riding.

More than that, "Surfers Are Assholes" (pg. 42) hints that a large percentage of these kids run a high risk of growing up to become entitled pro-surfer assholes. Apologies to my professional surfer buddies [winky face.] Our interview with Aaron James—the author of the *New York Times* bestseller *Assholes: A Theory*—is a thoroughly enjoyable, lighthearted read and a refreshingly honest take on surfers in their native habitat. It's also a really good excuse to use the word "asshole" a record-breaking 33 times in this issue.

But it also doesn't paint the prettiest picture of us as a species. By contrast, Justin Housman, citing a *Forbes* study in his column this month ("The Next Greatest Generation," pg. 36), believes there's hope for us, and that it's precisely these potential assholes who are going to save surfing from being crushed under its own weight. I guess they aren't so bad after all.

Make no mistake, surfing faces many challenges. The Hot 100 and "Generation Z" certainly have their work cut out for them. But, knowing many of the Hot 100 personally, I'm inclined to agree with the *Forbes* study. If these kids are able to navigate the challenges ahead half as well as they are able to navigate their stickered-up 4'6" thrusters through a tropical reef-pass barrel, surfing's in good shape. Oh, and one more thing: asshole. There, that makes a nice, round 35.

Brendon Thomas
Editor


T&C Surf Designs
Hawai'i
hi
check
tcsurf.com
Stay STOKED!
live like this

Contents



PHOTO BY MEHREN

On The Cover
"For that wave in particular, it was just a 'right place, right time' kinda thing," says **Kohl Christensen** of his backhand bomb. "I remember it was tough to find waves in the crowd that day, but that one let me in on the outer ledge and doubled up on the bowl. Mavericks is a special place for me because of the people who make it what it is. Everyone committed to surfing there has such great energy and a love for the wave. It also carries a certain weight because Sion Milosky and Mark Foo passed away there. You really have to respect it and view it as one of the greatest challenges in big-wave surfing."
Photo by Fred Pompermayer

044
SURFERS ARE ASSHOLES
Bestselling author Aaron James exposes us all.

050
THE FJORD
Mapping the untapped surf potential of the Faroe Islands.

062
PHILIPPINE DREAM
Cloud Nine's forgotten neighbor.

083
THE HOT 100
The definitive ranking of the world's best young surfers.

Plus:

030 Comment: **Rants and Raves**
036 Culture: **Surfing's Generation Z**
040 The Now: **Bryce Young**
042 Quiver: **Psychedelic Spray Revival**
138 Agenda: **Hot 100 Week**
140 Perfect Day: **Pipeline**
142 Extra: **Overhead**

WATERMANS

SUNSCREEN

① NEW PACKAGE ② LESS PLASTIC ③ BETTER OCEANS

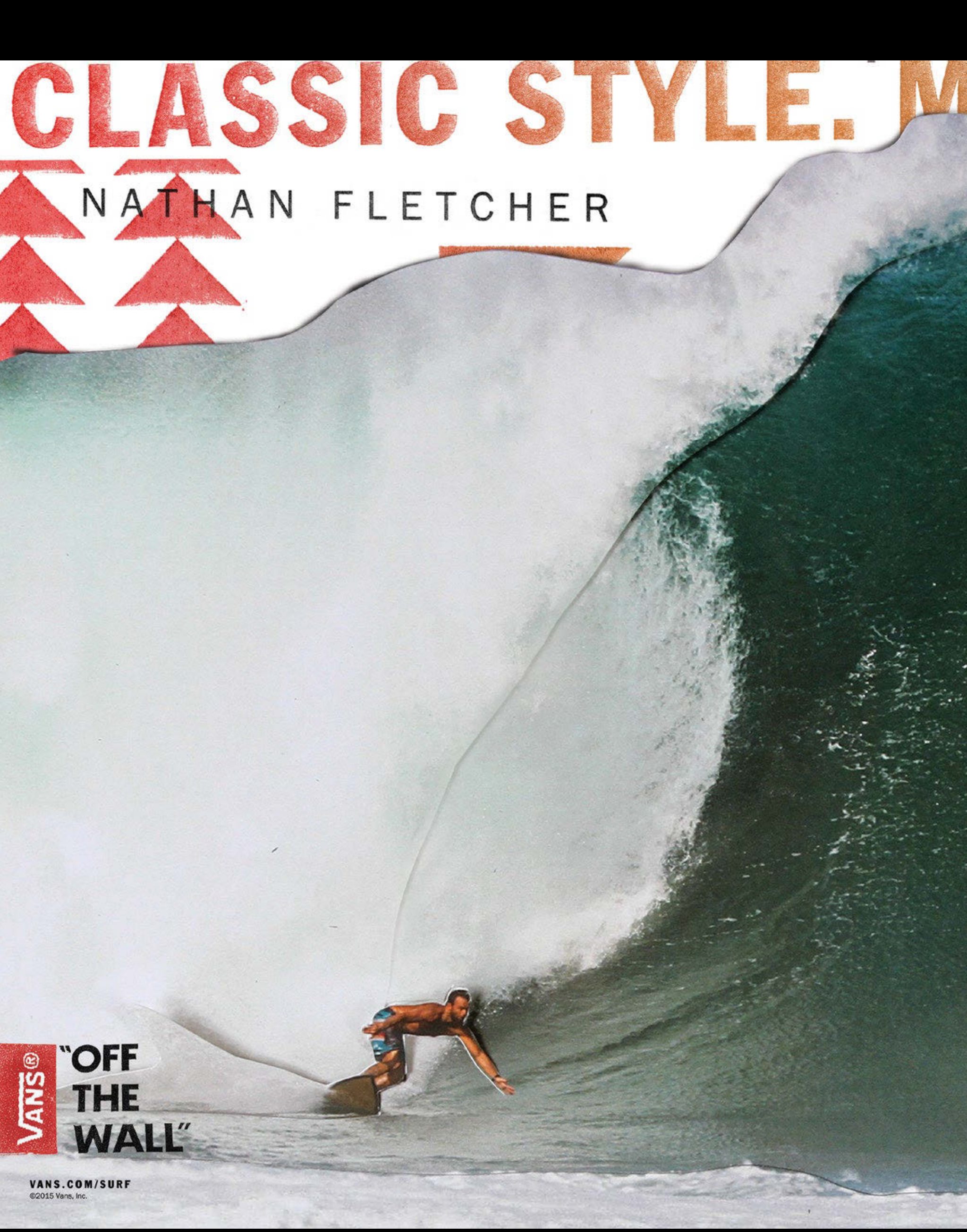


NEW IMPROVED FORMULA

WATERMANSSUNSCREEN.COM

CLASSIC STYLE. M

NATHAN FLETCHER



VANS®

"OFF THE WALL"

VANS.COM/SURF

©2015 Vans, Inc.

ODERN COMFORT.

THE NF BOARDSHORT
FEATURING

STURDY STRETCH by VANS



THE AG47 NEW WAVE BONDED BOARDSHORT

REPREVE

REPREVE is a registered trademark of Unifi, Inc. 3M and Scotchgard are trademarks of 3M. #TURNITGREEN



WOZOT



THE ORIGINAL BOARDSHORT COMPANY

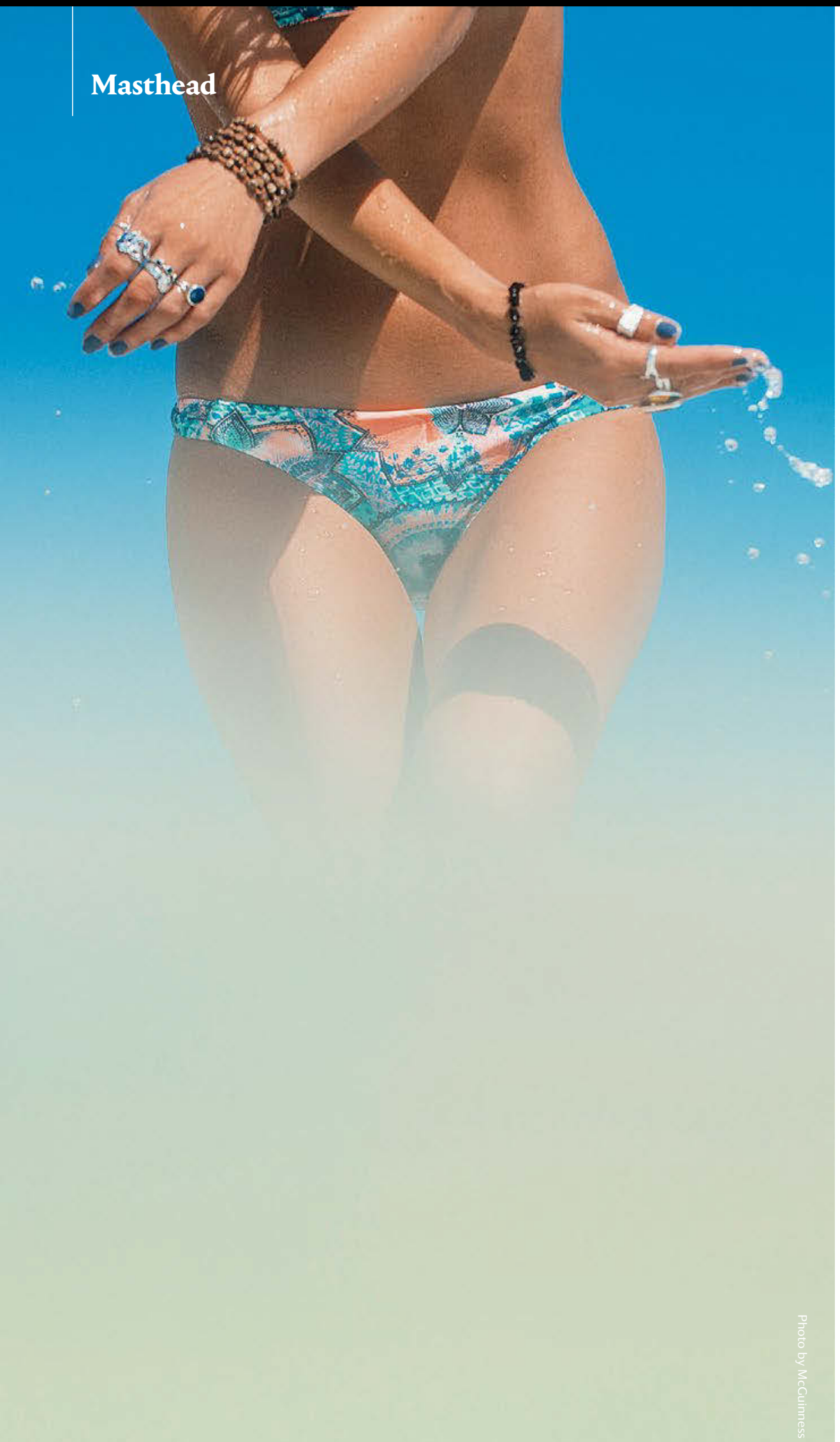


Photo by McGuinness

Masthead

surfer
THE ORIGINAL SINCE 1960

Editorial

Editor Brendon Thomas
Managing Editor Todd Prodanovich
Associate Editor Josh T. Saunders
Assistant Editor Justin Housman
Photo Editor Grant Ellis
Assistant Photo Editor Bryce Lowe-White
Video Production Assistant Alex Kilauano
Art Director James Newitt
Assistant Art Director Mike Gonsalves
Social Media Manager Garrett James
Hawaii Editor Jeff Mull
Copy Editor Kim Stravers

Contributing Editors
Steve Barilotti, Ray Bergman, Steve Hawk

Senior Writers
Sean Doherty, Matt George, Sam George, Derek Hynd, Drew Kampion, Ben Marcus, Brad Melekian, Joel Patterson, Lewis Samuels, Gabe Sullivan, Kimball Taylor, Matt Warshaw

Contributing Writers
Tim Baker, Christian Beamish, Chris Dixon, Ashtyn Douglas, William Finnegan, Alex French, Rob Gilley, Janna Irons, Bruce Jenkins, Michael Kew, Maxwell Klinger, Shea Lopez, Kirk Owers, Greg Thomas

Surfer Photographers
Chris Burkard, Jason Childs, Todd Glaser, Zak Noyle

Senior Photographers
Erik Aeder, Kirk Lee Aeder, Scott Aichner, Bernie Baker, Art Brewer, Jeff Divine, Steve Fitzpatrick, Jon Frank, Pete Frieden, Anthony Ghiglia, Rob Gilley, Dylan Gordon, Ted Grambeau, Tony Heff, Joli, Rob Keith, Jason Kenworthy, Kin Kimoto, Nick Lavecchia, Morgan Maassen, Tim McKenna, Dick Meseroll, Mike Moir, Jason Murray, Brian Nevins, Yassine Ouhilal, Frank Quirarte, Jim Russi, Tom Servais, Andrew Shield, Bernard Testemale, Patrick Trefz, J.P. Van Swae

Contributing Photographers
Branden Aroyan, Don Balch, Rob Brown, John S. Callahan, Sylvain Cazenave, Mike Coots, Donald Cresitello, Juan Fernandez, Mike Findlay, Ryan Foley, Russ Hennings, Pete Hodgson, Kenny Hurtado, Timo Jarvinen, Alex Kilauano, Matt Lusk, Myles McGuinness, Don Montgomery, Naki, Mike Nelson, Steve Ryan, Chris Sardelis, Mike Smolowe, Bryan Soderlind, David Sparkes, Jon Steele, Ben Thouard, Tungsten

Manufacturing & Production Operations

VP, Manufacturing & Ad Operations Greg Parnell
Senior Director, Ad Operations Pauline Atwood
Archivist Thomas Voehringer

Founder
John Severson

ESP | HOT 100

FANTASYSURFER

Please Recycle!

WE MAKE FUN

sector 9

SKATEBOARD CO.

RICKY WHITLOCK

POWDER TURNS
IN CARLSGOOD

photos: budro

BAMBOO SERIES
MINI LOOKOUT

FOUND THIS
DOG ON TINDER

#wemakefun



PLAY WITH GLASS

OTIS

scratch resistant
mineral glass lenses
otiseyewear.com

surfer
THE ORIGINAL SINCE 1960

Advertising

General Manager
Tony Perez

Associate General Manager
Jeremy Schluntz

Marketing Manager Kellie Cuttrell
Senior Account Executive Bryan Ellis
Senior Account Executive Saxon Boucher
Senior Account Executive Matt Sims
Senior Account Executive Jye Townend
East Coast Account Executive Kevin Welsh
Advertising Coordinator Melinda Villegas

Action/Outdoor Group

Management
Production Director
Kasey Kelley
Editorial Director, Digital
Chris Mauro
Finance Director
Adam Miner
Director of Sales/Outdoor
Chris Engelsman
Director of Sales/Action
Adam Cozens

Digital Group
Digital Director, Engineering
Jeff Kimmel
Senior Product Manager
Rishi Kumar
Senior Product Manager
Marc Bartell
Creative Director
Peter Tracy
Content Strategies Manager
Kristopher Heineman

Marketing & Events
Director, Events
Scott Desiderio
VP, Event Sales
Sean Nielsen

Facilities
Manager
Randy Ward
Office Coordinator
Ruth Hosea
IT Support Specialist
Mike Bradley

TEN: The Enthusiast Network, LLC

TEN THE ENTHUSIAST NETWORK

Chairman
Peter Englehart
Chief Executive Officer
Scott P. Dickey
EVP, Chief Financial Officer
Bill Sutman
EVP, Chief Creative Officer
Alan Alpanian
EVP, Sports & Entertainment
Norb Garrett
EVP, Chief Content Officer
Angus MacKenzie
EVP, Operations
Kevin Mullan
SVP, Enterprises
Tyler Schulze
EVP, Sales & Marketing
Eric Schwab

SVP, Digitial Operations
Dan Bednar
VP, Sales Operations
Matt Boice
SVP, Financial Planning
Mike Cummings
SVP, Automotive Digital
Geoff DeFrance
VP, Editorial Operations
Amy Diamond
EVP, Aftermarket Automotive
Doug Evans
SVP, Content Strategy, Automotive
David Freiburger
SVP, Digital, Sports & Entertainment
Greg Morrow

VP, Digital Monetization
Elisabeth Murray
SVP, Marketing
Ryan Payne
EVP, Mind Over Eye
Bill Wadsworth

Consumer Marketing, Enthusiast Media Subscription Company, Inc.

SVP, Circulation
Tom Slater
VP, Retention & Operations Fulfillment
Donald T. Robinson III

SUBMISSIONS
SURFER Magazine is not responsible for unsolicited contributions unless otherwise pre-agreed in writing. SURFER Magazine retains ALL RIGHTS on material published in SURFER for a period of 12 months after publication and reprint rights after that period expires.

Send contributions to: SURFER Magazine, 236 Avenida Fabricante #201, San Clemente, CA 92672, Attn: Editor. Or e-mail *surferedit@surfermag.com.* Any submissions or contributions from readers shall be subject to and governed by TEN: The Enthusiast Network's User Content Submission Terms and Conditions, which are posted at *http://www.enthusiastnetwork.com/submissions*

SURFER'S COVERAGE AND DISTRIBUTION The magazine is published every month, worldwide. No part of this book may be reproduced without written permission. This book is purchased with the understanding that the information present is from varied sources for which there can be no warranty or responsibility by the Publisher as to the accuracy or completeness.

ADVERTISING RATES
Contact the SURFER Advertising Department at:
SURFER, 236 Avenida Fabricante #201, San Clemente, CA 92672
Phone: 949.325.6200, Fax: 949.325.6196

BACK ISSUES
To order back issues, visit *https://www.circsource.com/store/storeBackIssues.html.*

Occasionally our subscriber list is made available to reputable firms offering goods and services we believe would be of interest to our readers. If you prefer to be excluded, please send your current address label and a note requesting to be excluded from these promotions to TEN: The Enthusiast Network, LLC, 831 S. Douglas St., El Segundo, CA 90245, Attn: Privacy Coordinator.

Copyright 2015 by TEN: The Enthusiast Network Magazines, LLC.
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. PRINTED IN THE U.S.A.

CANADA POST
Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to IMEX Global Solutions, P.O. Box 25542, London, ON N6C 6B2.




DONAVON **FRANKENREITER**


DAVE **RASTOVICH**

sanuk
NEVER UNCOMFORTABLE
THE BOULEVARD COLLECTION | SANUK.COM



We surf plastic boards, with plastic fins, a plastic leash, and a plastic tail pad. We wear plastic shorts or use plastic wetsuits when it's cold. When we travel we insert our boards into plastic board bags. There is nothing environmentally friendly about our sport other than the waves themselves. Surfing has been painfully slow to change over the decades. I applaud any small step towards something that is sustainable and environmentally friendly.

Stan Lecain, on *"Green Wave"* from Surfermag.com

Tim Hambly wrote: I enjoyed "Atlas Be Praised," Justin Housman's tribute to surf photographers, in your 2015 Photo Annual. As a former creative director, photography fanboy, and lifelong surfer, I concur that we surfers—indeed, all humans—are visual by nature. And that our modern surf world would not exist without surf photographers.
At the same time, Justin's observations about how digital technology has democratized and, to some extent, diluted the surf-photography landscape also resonated. And I noticed something interesting: Despite all of the mind-blowing images packed into your recent photo annual, that particular issue found its way from my table to the trash faster than any in recent memory. Why? Its correspondingly lower volume of in-depth editorial. I realized that while I used to pull out many posters as a boy, and still froth endlessly today over thousands of spectacularly unique surf images in the mags and across the Web, for me, it is ultimately the words and the stories, be they humorous, informative, educational, inspirational, enlightening, or some combination therein, that have always moved me to add select issues to my comically heavy "closet stack."
Yes, we owe everything to the Stoners, Seversons, Brewers, Changs, Glasers, and Divines. And every bit as much to the Pezmans, Warshaws, Georges, Hawks, Samuels, and Housmans. Our precious surf world is balanced equally upon the shoulders of them all. **Ponte Vedra Beach, FL**

Sommyr Pochan wrote: That January 2015 issue was outstanding. The whole issue made me think strongly about the future of our sport—quantifying stoke, commercialization, excellent photography, and, most importantly, the role surfers can play in coming coastal-environment decisions. I live in Far Rockaway, NYC, which has really been plunged into the forefront of how to deal with populated coastal areas. We have berms, newly created giant piles of sand pumped from a mile offshore and functioning as dunes, a hardened bayside shoreline that failed miserably during Hurricane Sandy, invasive species choking out the native plants holding together the natural shoreline we have left, a sketchy liquid natural-gas (LNG) pipeline being built right under our feet without our approval, and a proposed LNG port right off the coast. Over the summer when our new dunes got created, most of our breaks got filled in with runoff sand and haven't yet completely recovered. People were upset about the breaks being destroyed and the dunes making beach access a little trickier and had no idea why it happened. The vast majority of surfers around here don't know and don't seem to care to learn about any of these big things going on right in their backyard. It's a complete bummer. I agree wholeheartedly with the people in the article who believe that as a cohesive group we have such a tremendous potential to activate and really make a difference in what our favorite place will look like. **Far Rockaway, NYC**

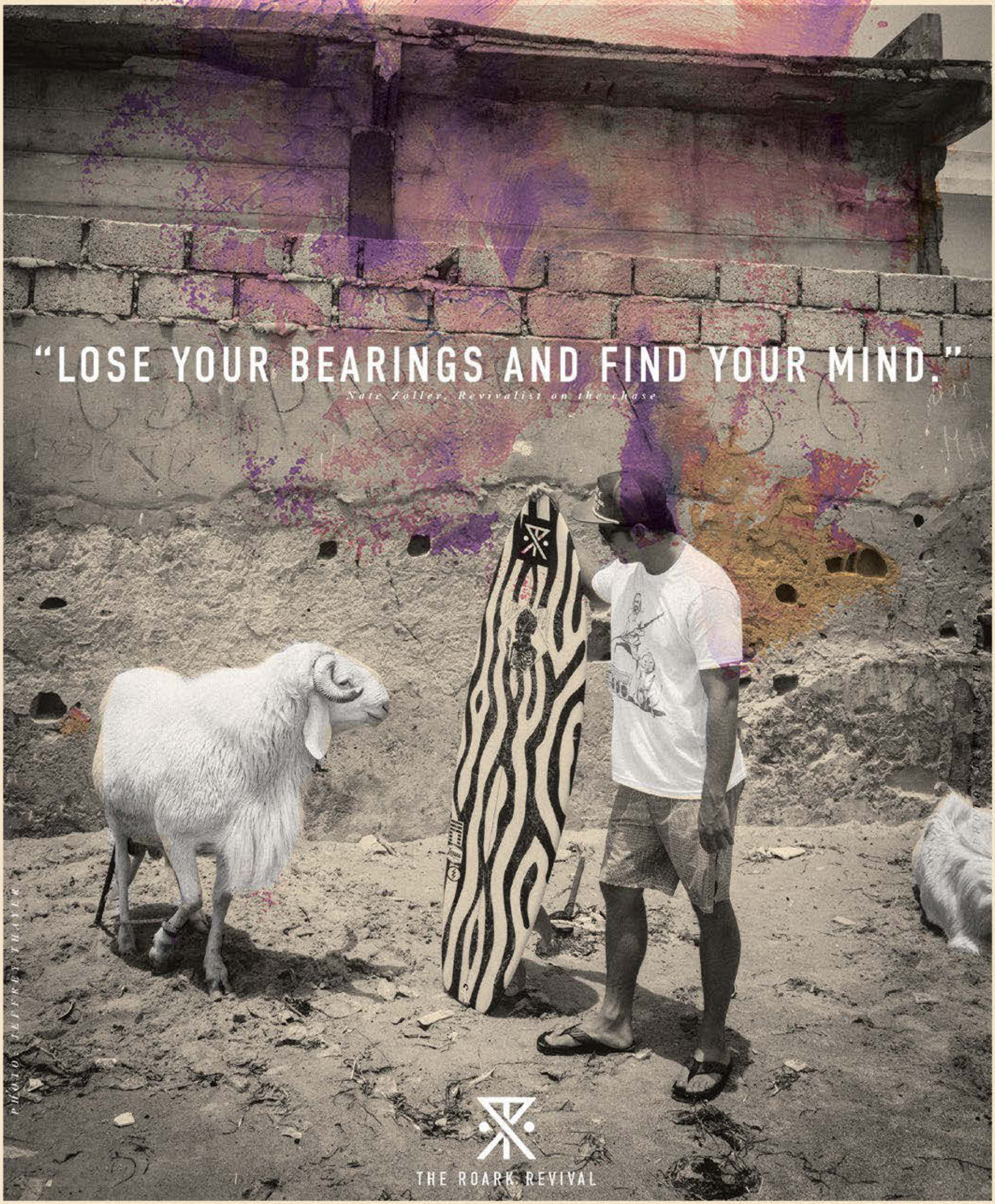
Anna Velarde (Hector's daughter-in-law) wrote: Just wanted to give you a heads-up that in the feature article "Coloring the Past" in the March special-edition issue, Hector Velarde is described as the fellow "holding the blue board with red trunks," but he is actually the guy in the dark-blue long shorts holding the wood board. Obviously! Great article, though. Gave us all a laugh. At 73 he hasn't changed a bit; however, his wife of 20 years makes sure there are no more women's underwear and phone-number-scrawled napkins at his feet! **Satellite Beach, FL**

Errata:
In our 2015 photo annual, we used a bit of photoshop wizardry to bring color to iconic black and white images from the past. Unfortunately we misidentified Hector Velarde in a photo from the 1965 World Championships. We also incorrectly credited the photograph to Ron Stoner when it was actually John Severson's shot. Here's an outtake from that feature, really shot by Ron Stoner, featuring the feet of Miki Dora...or maybe Terry Tracy. Damn, it's hard to tell from this angle.
Photo by Stoner



WANT TO VOICE YOUR OPINION ON WHAT YOU'RE READING?
Send any praise, criticism, or belligerent rants to surferedit@surfermag.com, or mail to:
SURFER Magazine, 236 Avenida Fabricante, Suite 201, San Clemente, CA 92672, USA
Follow us: facebook.com/surfer @surfer_magazine @surfer_magazine

THE ROARK REVIVAL VOLUME 8: "THE GNAR OF DAKAR"



WWW.ROARK.COM



ONE **OBSESSION**

#LIVEYOURS

©2015 OAKLEY, INC. | OAKLEY.COM/ONEOBSESSION | 800.320.9430


SLOW
OAKLEY

OAKLEY

LOWERS PRO 2015

A MEN'S QUALIFYING SERIES 10,000

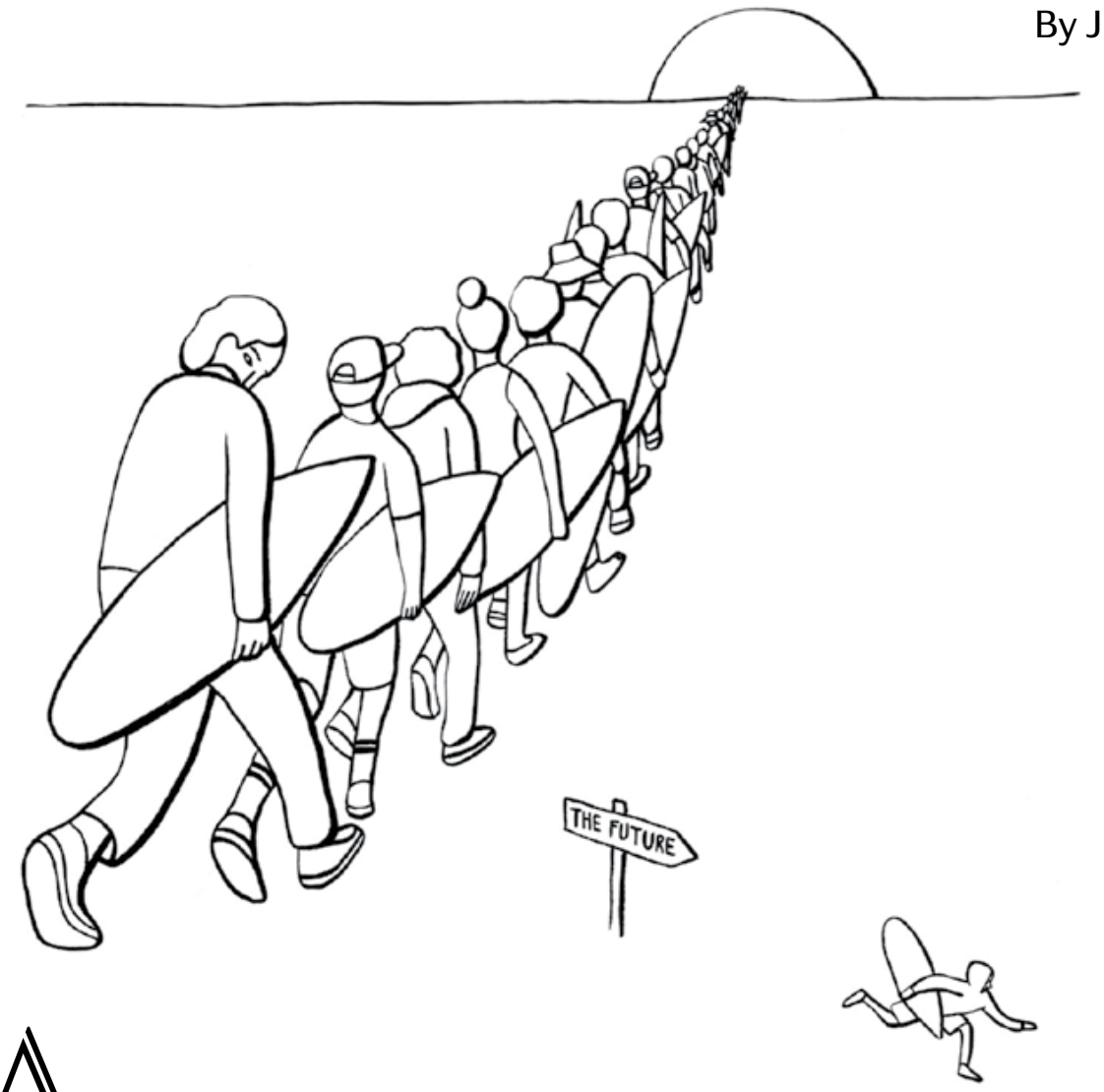
APRIL 28 — MAY 2, 2015

LOWER TRESTLES, SAN CLEMENTE, CALIFORNIA, USA


#OAKLEYPRO
WATCH IT LIVE AT OAKLEYLOWERSPRO.COM
surfer
CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS
SINCE 1864

The Next Greatest Generation

By Justin Housman



ART BY GEOFF MCFETRIDGE

At some point this decade, surfing—well, modern surfing, anyway—took a few casual strokes, rose to its feet, and elegantly trimmed into its second century. The Duke launched his surfy crusade just about 100 years ago, proselytizing to the unwashed locals on the coasts of the U.S. and Australia. Aside: I believe it goes without saying that the Australian leg of the voyage was the most important part of the Duke's legacy, for it provided us the ascension of his holiness, St. Occhilupo. [Genuflects, makes sign of the cross.]

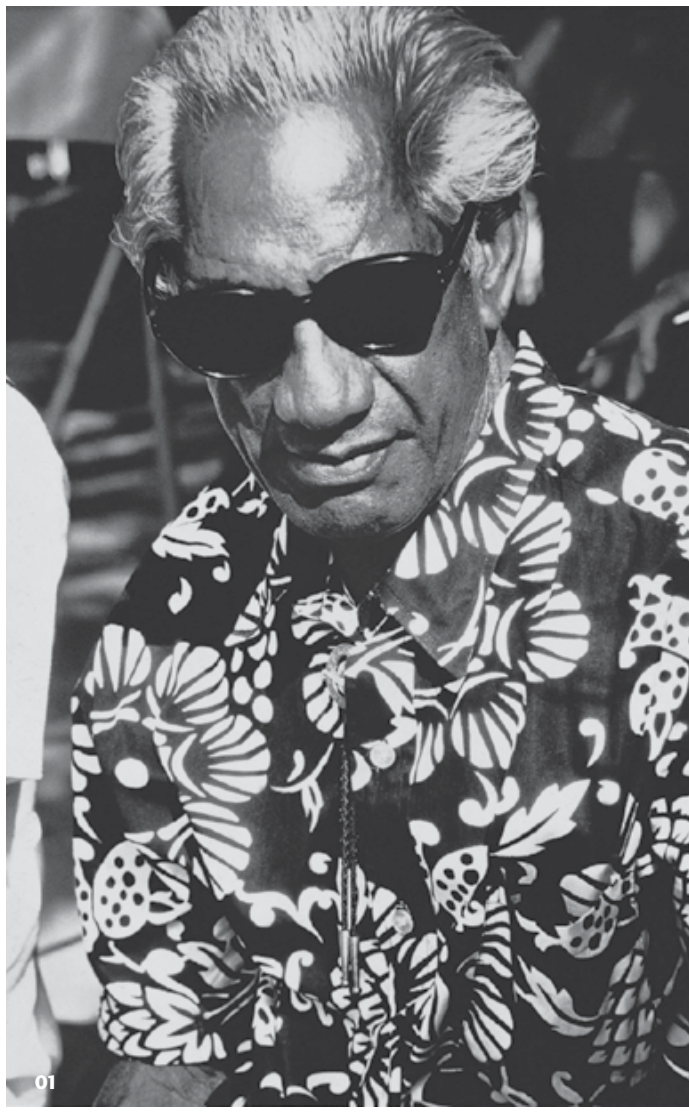
Anyway, in its first 100 years, modern surfing has expanded beyond all expectations that the Duke or anybody else could possibly have dreamed up even in the most limitless of fantasies. It's nearly impossible to measure the worldwide population of surfers with anything approaching accuracy, but according to a 2012 article in *The Economist,* something like 35 million people worldwide surfed at least once in 2011. And that was just in Santa Cruz, California (not really). The surf industry is projected to be worth around $13 billion by 2017—or, in mainstream-sports dollars, the combined worth of the 11 wealthiest teams in Major League Baseball. If surfing ever really catches on in China and India, the most populous nations on Earth, those numbers will likely explode into the realm of the absurd. This is all great news if you're in the boardshorts game.



For Austin Kino, the sky is a wealth of information. As a crewmember and apprentice navigator on the traditional voyaging canoe Hōkūleʻa, he's learned the maps, legends and stories that connect sea and stars. Austin joined fellow adventurer and National Geographic photographer Ben Horton to find common ground in California's Joshua Tree National Park.

OluKai

OLUKAI.COM/ANYWHEREALOHA



01
A century on, the future of surfing looks just as sharp as the Duke himself.
Photo by Stoner



02
"Come on Dad, I'll save the world later. Let me just get one more wave first."
Photo by Ellis



03
Overcrowded? Not to worry. There'll probably be an app for that.
Photo by Craig

Terrible news if you're the self-deputized warden of your local break.

Think about it long enough and that kind of exponential growth starts to beg a couple nagging questions. My first instinct when thinking about this is, as usual, to make a beeline directly for the hyperbolic: Can surfing even survive another hundred years? But that's a stupid question. Of course it can and of course it will. A better question would be: What is surfing in the process of becoming? As much as it hurts my ego to admit this, the answers aren't up to me, or any of my fellow surfers born well before the dawn of the 21st century. It's up to the kids. And it's not going to be easy for them.

We're now smack in the middle of the rise of Generation Z, a huge cohort of young people born anytime between 1995 and the very moment you're reading this. Are you under the age of 20? Congrats, you're a deputized Gen Z'er. There are 2 billion Gen Z'ers worldwide, and they represent about a quarter of the North American population. Depending on where you surf or how much hair you have sprouting out of your ears, it may even seem like they represent the majority of surfers in your local lineup.

Now I don't want to alarm you, but surfing's going to have to deal with some unpleasant issues that are coming down the pike very soon. I believe that we're living through the best time ever to be a surfer. Right now. This very instant. Oh, man, it's the absolute best. But the most pessimistic surfers among us will sullenly point to overcrowding, pollution, and climate change as evidence that the future ain't looking so rosy. We'll all have to deal with it, but it's the teenagers and especially the younger kids who are going to have to wear these problems right on the head. Thing is, there's no quarter for pessimism among Generation Z; it's a group about as primed as you could ever hope for dealing with an uncertain future.

Social scientists are downright stoked on kids today. According to a *Forbes* study, Gen Z'ers already make it a point to go out of their way to buy products they feel help make the world a better place. They're more likely than the Millennials before them to proclaim that they want a career that makes a positive social impact. And, unlike their generational forebears, they have already started socking away money they're earning from mowing lawns or developing multi-billion-dollar startups—whatever it is kids do to earn allowances these days. Nearly three-quarters of teenaged respondents to surveys say they'd rather be "smarter" than "better looking." While the Millennials have eagerly plugged themselves into the mainframe, trading privacy for conve-nience, many Gen Z'ers report that they'd happily give up social media for an entire year if it meant a tangible future reward. Many say they even prefer, if you can believe this, face-to-face interaction rather than digital.

These are kids who have warily come of age in a post-9/11 world; they've watched their parents struggle through the Great Recession, they know they're the ones who'll have to live with climate change, and yet only six percent of teenagers report being fearful of the future. It's not a coincidence that dystopian-themed novels and movies built around heroes who persevere to build a better world (think *The Hunger Games, The Maze Runner,* and *Divergent*) are ruling the young-adult-entertainment market. Gen Z'ers are pragmatic, smart, and altruistic all at once.

What this has to do with surfing, to answer your question, is that this is the generation that's waiting in the wings to confront whatever obstacles the voracious growth of surfing and environmental calamity will present in the decades to come. And those obstacles will be formidable and scary and seemingly insurmountable at times. But if the social scientists are right, and God, let's hope they are, the kids are ready to lead the surf world into a future where things like overcrowding and climate change will be attacked as manageable problems, not death knells signaling the end of a cherished way of life.



Every explorer welcomes the unknown. The Hokua Pahu makes sure you're prepared for it. Tested and trusted by the crewmembers of the Hōkūle'a voyaging canoe, OluKai's adventure sandal offers the comfort, support, and quick drying to keep navigators surefooted no matter where they stride. Explore land, sea, and new frontiers with confidence.

OluKai

OLUKAI.COM/ANYWHEREALOHA

THE NOW



PHOTO BY HURTADO

Bryce Young on mastering surfcraft from the past, present, and future

Interview by **Todd Prodanovich**

Just down the road from a right-hand point in the tiny fishing town of Angourie, Australia, Bryce Young had everything he needed to become a great surfer–not the least of which was one of the greatest surfers of all time living under the same roof. "I just call him Dad," says Young of his father, Australian surf legend Nat Young. "He put me on the front of his board when I was about 4 years old and then handed me my own when I was about 5–a sick '80s thruster that was fluorescent orange, green, and yellow." Since then, Young has spent his life riding surfboards both modern and anachronistic, fine-tuning a style to suit them all.

So you must have had the most epic collection of boards at your disposal growing up. It was funny because we had all these boards basically in a pit under the house. You couldn't actually see what was in there, so you never knew what you were going to find until you went looking. There were definitely some special boards down there. As a grom, I'd be crawling around under the house checking out this pile of boards, but I was too small to pull them out. I'd have to go get Dad and ask if he'd drag one out for me.

Was your dad pretty set on making you into the best surfer you could be? Not at all, actually. He never pushed me, but he always backed me in whatever I wanted to do. I actually started skating first, and the funny thing is that my mom and dad met through skateboarding. My dad made this movie back in the day called *Fall Line,* and they needed a skater for a downhill section, so they called my mom. She got me into skating when I was really small, and I still go skate with her a bunch. We'll find some smooth downhill and do a little weave. I love how interconnected skating and surfing are. Skating was born out of surfing, and then skating started pushing surfing. If you can apply certain parts of one to the other, to me that's the ultimate.

It seems like you ride pretty much everything. Do you have any surfboard prejudices? No, I enjoy pretty much every kind of board in the right situation. Each board has its ideal set of conditions and produces its own feeling, so it's fun to change it up all the time. When I was a grom I rode a longboard almost exclusively, then I started riding more standard shortboards when I got older. Now I just ride everything from old-school mid-lengths to modern asymmetricals.

Do you think we're on the cusp of seeing more people adopt asymmetrical surfboards? It's hard to say if they'll catch on with most surfers, but I do think more people are starting to warm up to the idea. Asymmetricals have opened my world and pretty much replaced my regular shortboard altogether. What's crazy is that they've been around for so long, but we're only now starting to take interest. Carl Ekstrom was making asymmetrical boards decades ago, and he's inspired guys like Ryan Burch. Ryan is like a brother to me, and I think he's the greatest surfer/shaper of our time. When you see footage of him surfing an asymmetrical at 10-foot Desert Point, it's tough to argue that they don't work amazing. I'm just lucky that he builds me these space shuttles.



VISSLA

Our Upcycled Coconut Stretch Board Shorts are made with yarns upcycled from coconuts. Upcycling is the process of converting useless products into new garments. This allows us to create performance garments with faster dry times and UV protection while reducing the amount of coconut husk waste in landfills.





Derrick Disney

Rhyder Boardshort

Creators & Innovators

vissla.com



Surfing's Lost Art Form

By Dane Gudauskas *As told to* Todd Prodanovich

PHOTO BY ELLIS

Growing up, whenever I saw old photos of boards ridden by guys like David Nuuhiwa and Terry Fitzgerald, I was completely amazed by the artwork. You don't see that style of art on surfboards very often anymore, but when you do, you instantly feel something. A little over a year ago I decided that I wanted to put together a quiver of boards that captured that energy and made me stoked to surf just by looking at them.

I asked around and got put in touch with John Frazier from Rainbow Surfboards, who connected me with two artists that he works with: Elizabeth Zaikowski and John Moseley. It was funny, because when I first talked to the artists they asked what the boards would be used for—basically whether I planned on riding them or hanging them on my wall. I thought it was because they didn't want me to fuck up their art, which would be understandable because it takes so much time and energy to do, but it was actually the opposite. John Moseley said, "Just promise me you'll get a sick barrel on it." That was really cool to hear, because they wanted to see these boards put to use even if it meant potentially breaking them in the process.

With that in mind, I wanted to use the kind of boards I actually ride every day. Sure, people think of this style of artwork as being really retro, but when guys like Terry Fitzgerald were getting sprays like this, they were getting it on the most cutting-edge boards of the time. I think these boards are really representative of what I surf on a daily basis, and that's more interesting to me than getting a cool spray on a single-fin for nostalgia's sake. But it's funny to think about how these boards will look to people in 15 or 20 years. Maybe they'll look as dated then as a '70s single-fin looks to us now.

(Left to Right)

MG 7'0" × 18 ⅞" × 2 ½"
Artwork by Elizabeth Zaikowski
I had this board made for heavier waves, like when Pipe gets big or maybe for a solid day at Sunset. That's why I needed butterflies on that one—something to calm the nerves a bit. The idea for the butterflies actually came from a shirt that I saw Pink Floyd's drummer wearing in a video.

Taco Grinder 6'5" × 18 ¾" × 2 ½"
Artwork by John Moseley
This board is made for barreling reef breaks like Pipe or Backdoor. The idea for the artwork on this one was to kind of paint the spirit of the ocean in the form of a person.

T-Low 6'0" × 18 ¾" × 2 ⅜"
Artwork by Mark Avina
This is more of a traditional shortboard for really rippable waves. I'm super into eyeballs in artwork, and liked the idea of including an all-seeing eye. We also talked about incorporating ocean themes, because that's obviously the environment these boards are going to live in.

New Flyer 5'8" × 19 ¾" × 2 ⅜"
Artwork by Elizabeth Zaikowski
This is basically a small-wave groveler. The artwork is meant to be a depiction of pure energy, which kind of relates to what we do in the ocean riding storm energy in the form of waves.

PHOTO - MADDISON ROTHERY

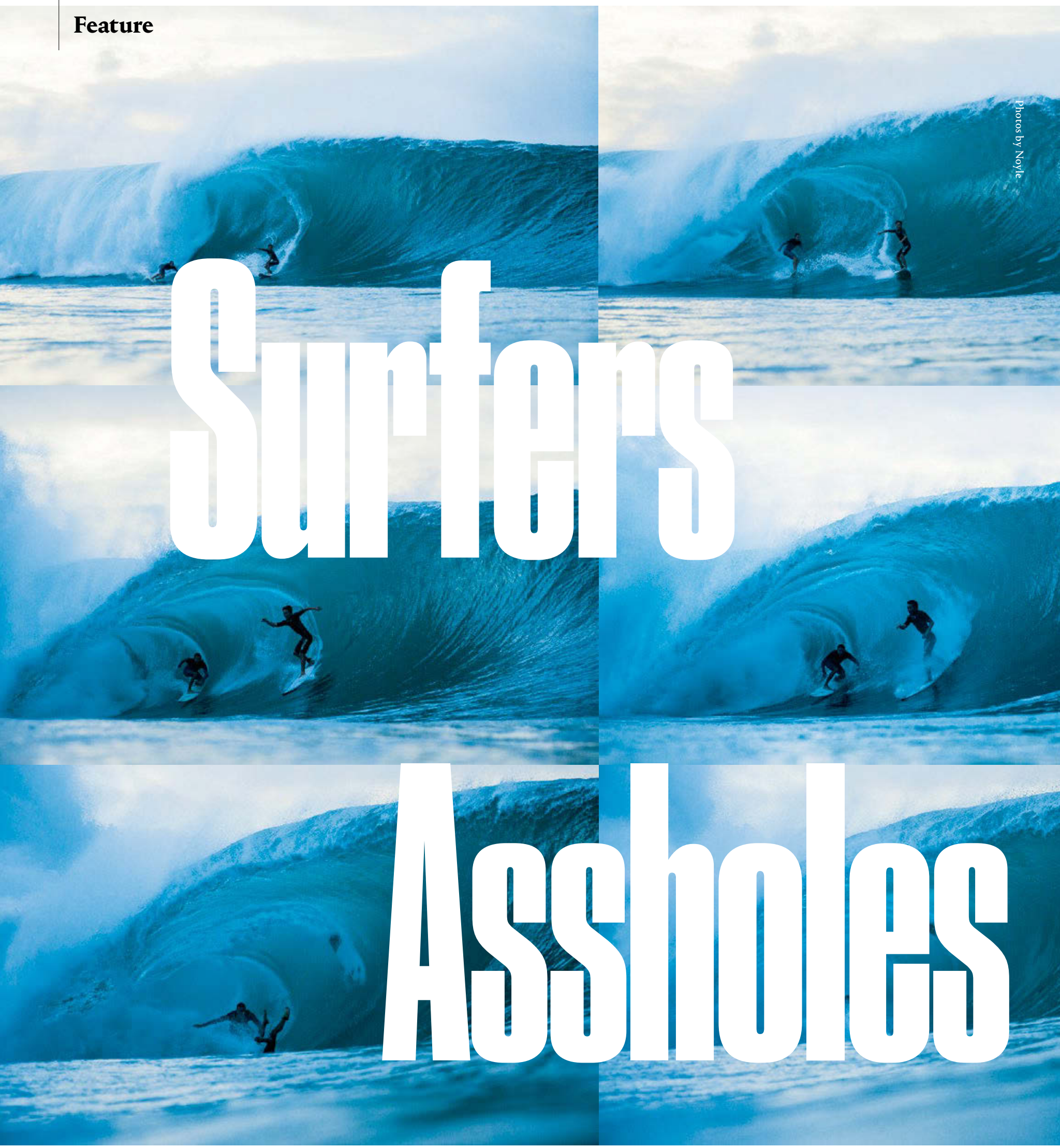
ELECTRIC

KELLY SLATER

SWINGARM. ED01-T WATCH

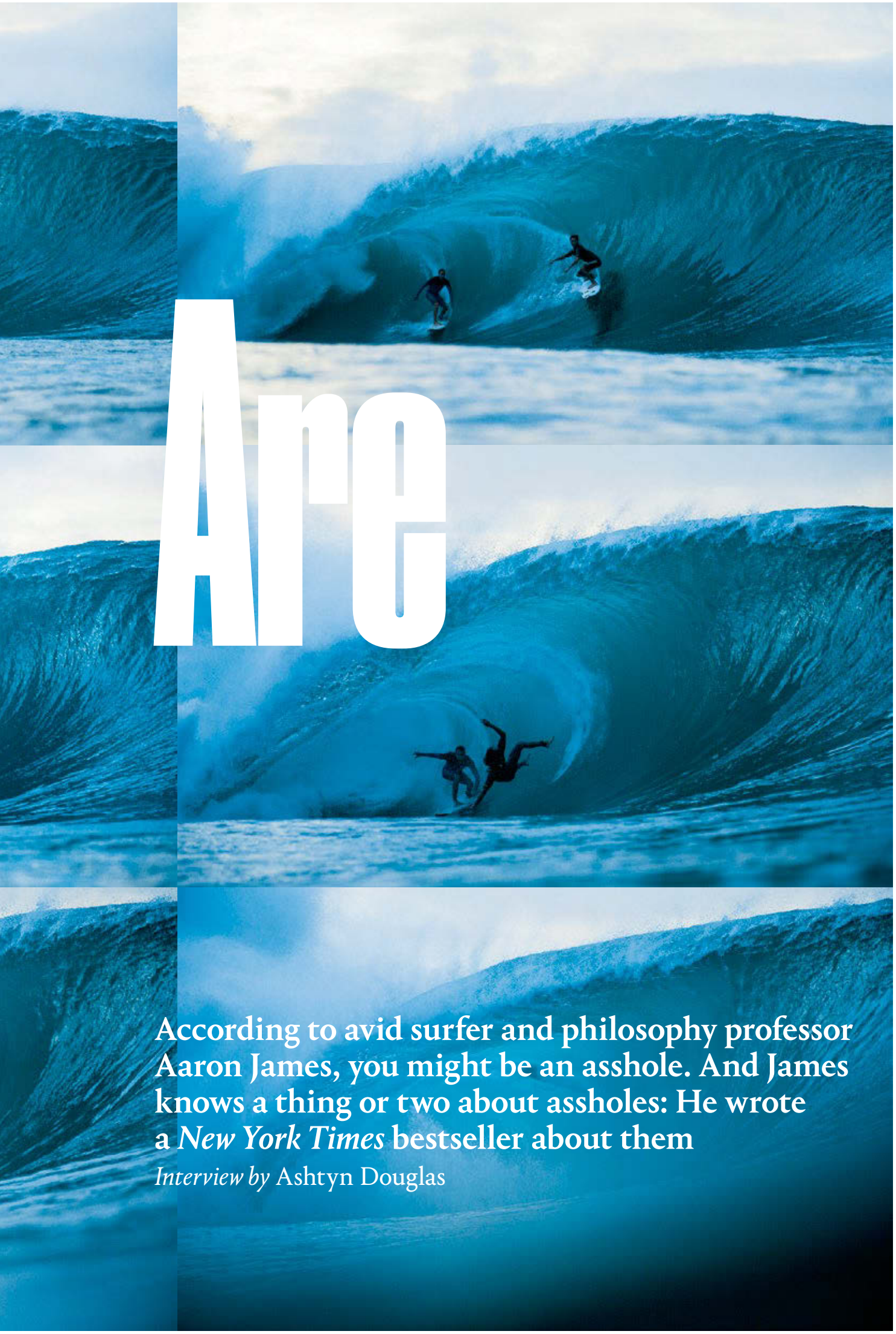


CALIFORNIA DESIGN - SUNGLASSES WATCHES ACCESSORIES - WWW.ELECTRICCALIFORNIA.COM



Surfers Assholes

Photos by Noyle



Are

According to avid surfer and philosophy professor Aaron James, you might be an asshole. And James knows a thing or two about assholes: He wrote a *New York Times* bestseller about them

Interview by Ashtyn Douglas

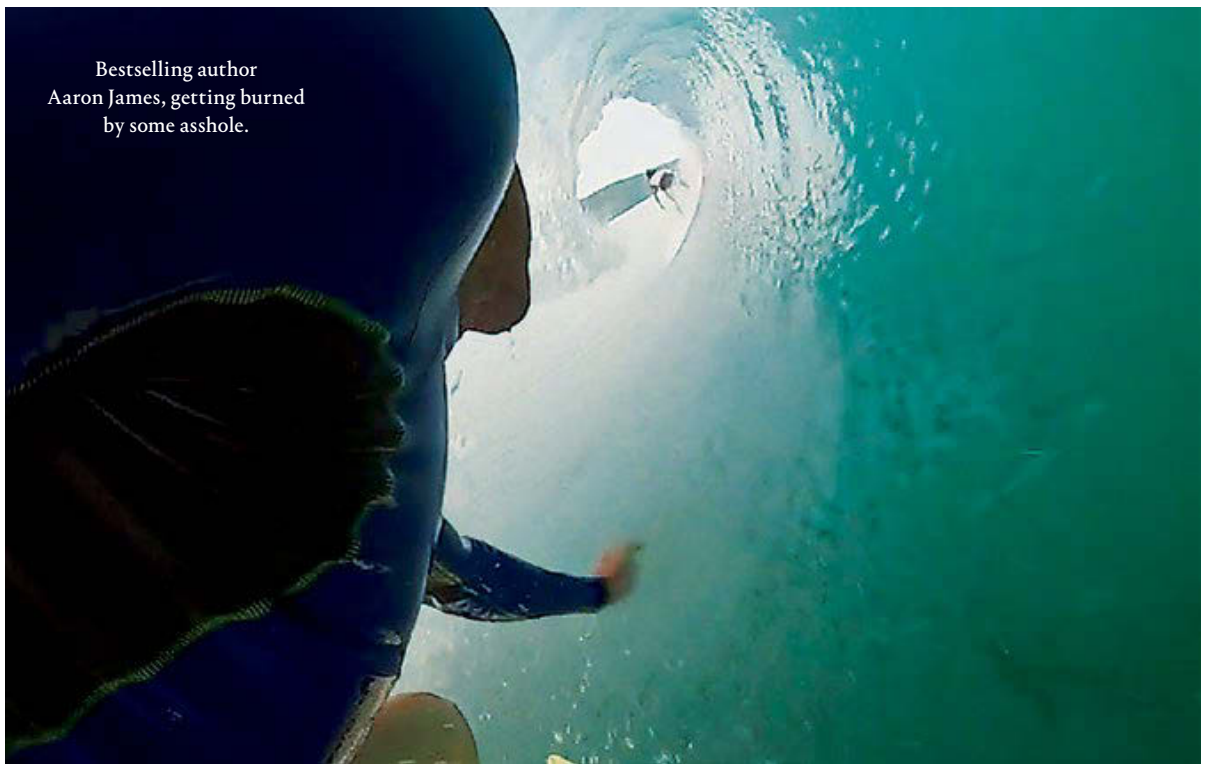
Before acquiring his PhD in philosophy from Harvard University, lifelong surfer Aaron James found inspiration for his *New York Times* bestselling book, *Assholes: A Theory,* not from his Ivy League colleagues, but from the many insufferable surfers he's encountered in lineups around the world. We all know the type: the aggro local bent on ruining your session, the bratty grom who scoffs at etiquette, the standup paddleboarder who literally takes every wave. But James goes beyond identification. He explains why these assholes are the way they are. We asked James to employ his asshole-management theory and discuss how to deal with these people both in and out of the water.

First off, can you tell us a little about your background in academia and surfing?
I grew up surfing in San Diego until Rincon drew me north to Santa Barbara, where I studied at Westmont College. From there, I got my PhD in philosophy at Harvard, trying to fit a year's worth of surfing into the four months I didn't have to be in Boston. I hoped to find a research-oriented "surfing job" at a university near good waves. Luckily, it all worked out. I got a job as a philosophy professor at UC Irvine right out of graduate school with Lower Trestles as my main break and have been happily there ever since.

So how does the premise of your book relate to surfers?
I first got the idea of defining the term "asshole" in the water while watching a guy blatantly burn someone and then get angry at the victim when he complained. We grow up dealing with this a lot, but this was the first time I had a philosophical moment with it. I thought, "Wait, to claim he's an asshole is classifying a person as of a certain moral type." Then I thought it would be fun to try to define what the moral type is, because a philosopher is supposed to define what is otherwise obscure.

In the first few chapters, you define an asshole as "a person that allows himself to enjoy special advantages in interpersonal relations out of an entrenched sense of entitlement that immunizes him against the complaints of other people." Who fits into that mold?
That's the definition I came up with based on the surfer who repeatedly snakes people and then yells at them when they reasonably complain. But the definition also seemed to work for the asshole who cuts in line at the post office, swerves through three lanes of traffic, parks in handicapped places, or talks too loud on his cell phone in a public space. It also fit a bunch of celebrities and political figures, which was all very fortunate, since I was initially just thinking of certain surfers and academic types.

Why do some surfers act like this, and why do they seem to be growing in number?
Most commonly, the asshole surfer makes up some entitlement to right of way in the lineup rather than relying on talent, wave knowledge, and hustle like everyone else. Maybe he's the older guy, or a supposed local, or a washed-up pro. I suppose it feels like there are more assholes in the water than before just because lineups are more crowded, and assholes convince themselves of their entitlements to cope with the frustration of not getting enough waves. I'm not sure whether there is a higher percentage of assholes than in earlier decades or if it's just the same proportion of a larger surfing population. You'd need a social scientific study to find out, but there are probably better questions for social scientists to work on.



Bestselling author Aaron James, getting burned by some asshole.

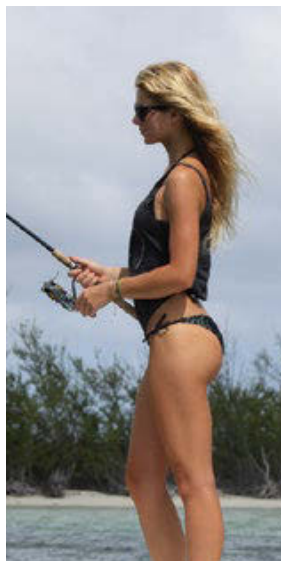
You touch on gender differences in your book. Why don't we often see women being assholes in the lineup?
Assholes are usually men in the general population, so it's no surprise that extends into the lineup. In the case of surfing, I think it's due to nurture rather than nature: Young girls are usually subjected to higher expectations to cooperate with rules. Boys are often permitted or even encouraged to act out, to push boundaries, and to compete, because "boys will be boys," while girls are often sharply sanctioned for acting in similar ways. For similar reasons, we see fewer women in the water. Historically, girls and young women haven't been pushed into sports to the same degree as boys. That started to change partly because of Title IX laws in the 1970s, which gave young women and girls better athletic opportunities, and now there's a surge of interest in female surfing. But the young women that do become surfers are a lot less likely to be assholes, just because they are generally less likely to engage in male styles of confrontation, such as yelling or making threats of violence, etc. Even the women who are exceptions to the rule will tend to pull asshole moves in their own, less brazenly male, fashion.

Part of your book is devoted to "asshole management," showing readers how to deal with assholes. How do we deal with assholes in the lineup?
The asshole problem is basically intractable, in which case you shouldn't expect a true asshole to listen or change regardless of what you say or do. Accepting that should help keep you from becoming frustrated or enraged when he doesn't. So you have to find other ways of upholding your rights to better treatment. Principled silence is one way. There's always the quick, cutting remark in hopes of embarrassing the guy and getting a laugh from others. And of course you could threaten to take it to the beach, which might work if he doesn't call your bluff, but may be dangerous otherwise. I think escalating isn't generally advisable. The quiet approach of principled silence saves you a lot of trouble, and can still be done in self-respect: In refusing to acknowledge the guy, you make clear that he's lost his right to speak to you. I've done this a lot, and most assholes don't know how to handle it. They get flummoxed.

Have you ever felt like the asshole in the lineup?
Ah yes, the inner asshole we all have. Sometimes you let yourself start thinking, "This is my spot and that other guy can't surf anyway, so I can back-paddle him, or not give him the benefit of the doubt when he's behind a makeable section." Maybe he's also ugly, or seems full of himself. Then, of course, non-assholes have that moment of self-awareness when you tell yourself, "Jeez, get over yourself. Just be cool. Don't be an asshole."





















Salt Life

SALTLIFE.COM

#WAYOFTHEWATERMAN


EL Señor
es Mi Pastor
nada me faltara

BODY GLOVE®

BOARDSHORTS

JAMIE O'BRIEN

www.bodyglove.com

Photo: Brent Bielmann

The Fjord

Mapping the untapped surf potential on the isle of sheep

By Ben Weiland *Photos by* Chris Burkard





ABOVE
A VIKING GRAVEYARD FRONTS ARGUABLY THE MOST REMOTE LINEUP IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC.

OPPOSITE TOP
TUNNELS, BRIDGES, AND FERRIES CONNECT THE CLUSTER OF ISLANDS.

OPPOSITE BOTTOM
SAM HAMMER FINDS A COLD NORSE WELCOME AT A LEFT-HAND WEDGE.

We were drawn to a particular fjord in the Faroe Islands—a cluster of cliffs and peaks that rises out of the North Atlantic 250 miles southeast of Iceland. It was so narrow that mist and clouds coming in from the sea became trapped between its peaks. The precipitation settled and braided streams coursed along the valley's basalt walls like silver tinsel shimmering against the black rock. The road we traveled also dipped from the clouds. It then skirted along a sea cliff and crossed a bridge before descending into the fjord. Its end met a small settlement next to a beach. There, black sand sloped into turquoise water and crushed white shells flared across the dark seabed in swirling patterns, glowing like cosmic dust.

We'd been driving around the islands in search of surf for two days without much luck, which was disconcerting because the Faroes lay in the path of all North Atlantic swell. In fact, we could often see swell moving on the horizon. The charts suggested that if we were to find anything worthy, this would be the place. Our two-vehicle caravan pulled off at a vantage point. Across the road, a farmer heaved trash bags into a dumpster. When he saw us studying the coast, he walked over with a greeting. I asked if the waves ever got big.

"See my house over there?" He pointed at the hillside above the town. "One year the waves came up so high, I had to shovel fish out of my backyard."

I explained that I was with a group of professional surfers. In fact, this particular crew excelled at scoring waves in cold, craggy, dramatic places like this. Yet the ocean below was serene.

"I'm afraid you can't surf these waves," the farmer said. "They're not good for that. Why would you come here of all places?"

We parked and walked toward the water, passing houses made of wood and stone. Sheep meandered in backyards like pets. Ahead of us, a door in the side of a wooden shed cracked open. A bloodstained sheepskin flew out and landed on the sidewalk next to a wheelbarrow, which was full of animal guts. The door clanked shut and a sour stench choked the air. I held my breath as we passed on the opposite side of the street. The inside of the hide looked slick and raw.

We'd arrived in the islands with peculiar timing.







The Faroes make up one of the smallest countries in the world. From a bird's-eye view, the islands resemble a shattered horn comprised of 18 jagged shards. But from ground level they are mythic in proportion. Towering cliffs meet the sea on every side. Gale-force winds sweep the rock faces. Grass and moss carpet slopes. Snow dusts the island's mountaintops and waterfalls plunge from lofty gutters. Although owned by Denmark, the Faroes still feel ancient and untouched by the outside world—so much so that in 2007 *National Geographic* declared them to be the most unspoiled islands in the world.

The villages sit in the shadows of fjords like windblown debris. Much of life here is simply about survival. Because the islands lack arable land, the people depend on a high-protein diet of fish, lamb, and a visceral whaling tradition known as the *grindadráp,* a pilot-whale slaughter. In Old Norse, Faroe translates as "islands of sheep," suggesting the extent to which their food traditions define the place.

We'd spent the first days of the trip scouring the islands, pulling out every tool in our wave-finding arsenal. We navigated beautifully surfaced roads, hopped between islands aboard ferries, through undersea tunnels, over bridges, and hiked into the coastal mountains—studying distant points of interest through binoculars. We took up temporary residence in numerous seaside cottages and combed every inch of their surrounding shores. But waves eluded us.

"Did anyone look at the nautical charts beforehand?" Sam Hammer asked. He rubbed his face. "It almost seems like these islands don't have any breaks at all." Behind him our cars idled in line at the ferry terminal. Sea birds cackled above. Swell pulsed in the water beyond the harbor but didn't break anywhere. A lack of swell wasn't the problem; it was the islands themselves. The coastline was too deep.

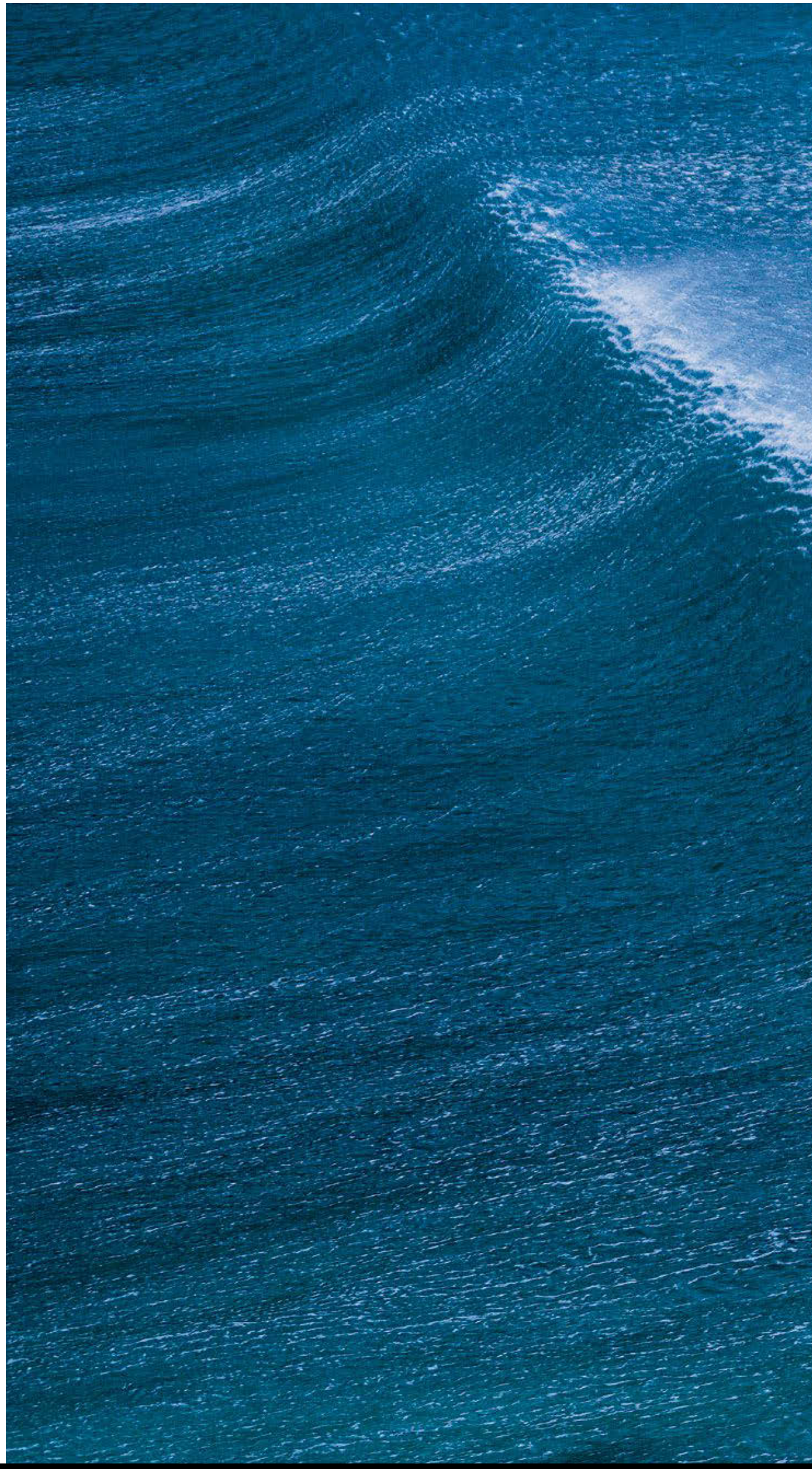
We boarded the ferry and a few hours later the boat ramp struck the dock. It reverberated like a gong. Light flooded the cargo hold and we exited onto another island. Rain fell thick and heavy, soaking hills, streets, and grass-topped roofs. We followed the road along the edge of a sea cliff, and as we dropped into a rocky bay I saw whitewash rolling ashore.

It looked gutless, but soon the tide pulled out and the waves shaped up. We parked in a village that hugged the cove and watched the surf.

Children emerged from the streets and alleys around us, running, smiling, hiding, teasing, and laughing. Parents appeared, and then grandparents too. A mother pushed a stroller up and down a sidewalk next to a break wall. Generations of the town gathered around in the rain. They stood at a distance and documented the pre-surf ritual on their cell phones. Two kids watched slack-jawed as we broke open the back of the van, unraveled leashes, and plied our boards with wax. I tried to imagine what they saw in us, grown men sliding into skintight suits. One of the older women walked over with her grandson and asked us, flatly, what we were doing.

After making the most of the surf, we left the cove in the dark. We were driving through the village when I spotted a wooden shed pulsing with the light of flames. Children packed around an open door. It appeared to be some kind of glass-blowing event. So we parked the car to take a look. On approach, sparks snapped and zipped through the chamber. At the door, I peered in. Three people in scuffed wool sweaters held propane torches. They shot bursts of fire across the room. Smoke lingered in the rafters. The air reeked of burning hair. On the floor by my feet lay piles of sheep heads. One of the flame shooters, an old lady, crossed over to the pile and plucked a head by the ear. She carried it across the room to a sawhorse with a metal spike sticking out of it. She thrust the head onto the spike, aimed her weapon, and blasted it. Fire danced in the reflection of her glasses; flames engulfed the sheep's face. After a few minutes the head was bare and black; it looked like a grinning gargoyle. The woman then scrubbed the skull with a brush, pulled it from the spike, and tossed it onto the pile at my feet. The eyes peered up at me.

At our house that evening, Dane Gudauskas and photographer Chris Burkard hunched over a laptop. One report showed a single day when all arrows pointed in the right direction, but for another island. We confirmed a departure time on the ferry schedule, packed our bags, and loaded up the cars.





DESPITE THE SMELL OF BURNING SHEEP HEADS HANGING IN THE BREEZE, TYLER WARREN STILL WELCOMED THE OFFSHORE WINDS.

There were two breaks that seemed to have potential, both of them secluded spots miles away from the main road. The route to the first one followed a stream through a narrow canyon. At the end, the passage opened into a large bowl that held a glassy lake. On the other side of the water a crack in the mountains led to the sea. The paved road ended below a sheepherding shed. So far I had seen only flawless roads throughout the islands, a network that included low-cost helicopter shuttles and ferries to every one of the country's tiny settlements. Transportation services kept even the most remote towns connected. But the gravel path that wound its way through the canyon was the first of its kind we had come across. We continued through a gate, oblivious to a "Do Not Enter" sign posted by the side of the road.

We encountered ankle-high waves breaking in the inlet on the other side of the lake. On return to the paved road, we found that the gate was shut. A padlock dangled from the post. I looked around for our captor, but the slopes were silent and empty. Chris got out of the car and shouted "Hello?" toward a sheep shed, but his voice dissolved into the mountains. Elli Magnusson, a heavily bearded Icelandic surfer who was with us, joined me as we walked up to the shed to see if we could find help. We knocked on a thick wooden door. It opened and an old farmer in a wool sweater looked up at us with milky eyes. He shouted something. Elli greeted him in Icelandic. The farmer continued to yell.

"He's not angry with us," Elli assured me. "That's just how he talks. But it's hard to understand what he's saying. We don't really have the same words." The farmer grabbed his keys and walked down toward the gate. "Their language is probably the closest to the Old Norse spoken in the Middle Ages."

As we arrived at the impounded cars, the farmer pointed to the "Do Not Enter" sign multiple times and shouted. Elli surmised that the tide lay at the heart of the farmer's concern: He thought we might get trapped when the water came rolling up the banks. The man opened the gate, let us through, and locked it behind us.

On the way to check the second break we decided to take a detour to the backside of the island, where a massive waterfall plunged hundreds of feet into the ocean. The road led us through a tunnel that bored into the dark center of a mountain. We emerged over a wide, bleak valley that overlooked the sea. The landscape was empty except for a few farmers coaxing sheep into the back of a pickup on an opposite slope. We made our way to an overlook of the falls. While we absorbed the view, one of the sheep broke away from the herd and bolted across the valley toward our position. Farmers and dogs chased after it. Yapping and screaming echoed into the mountains. The runaway bounded toward the banks of the stream and as soon as the farmers came near, it leapt into the current and swam in the direction of the waterfall's plunge. One of the shepherds climbed in after it, wading through the icy, turbulent, waist-deep pools. The sheep paddled until it reached the point where the stream dropped into oblivion.





TOP
THE RAISING AND KILLING OF SHEEP IS A CORNERSTONE OF FAROESE CULTURE.

BOTTOM
TYLER WARREN, CONSIDERING THE DANGERS OF SURFING A CERTAIN SEAL-INFESTED COVE.

OPPOSITE
ALL RIVERS LEAD TO THE OCEAN. DANE GUDAUSKAS, FOCUSED ON THE JOB AT HAND.







ABOVE
SEASIDE COTTAGES PROVIDE REFUGE FROM THE COLD. TYLER WARREN, PASSING THE TIME AFTER SUNDOWN.

The farmer came up behind the animal, attempting to corner it, but it kept moving. It swam to the edge of the falls, climbed onto a flat rock, and leapt down to a narrow shelf that hung out over the Atlantic. Swells surged against rocks hundreds of feet below. Above, the farmers readied a rope fashioned with a noose at the end. They lowered it down to the shelf and heaved it back and forth. The sheep stood still as the noose drifted around it. The animal seemed almost unconcerned. Finally, the farmers' rope caught its head. They became still and focused as they drew the loop tight. The men formed a line going up the side of the slope, leaned on their heels, and hauled the rope hand over hand. As soon as its feet left the ground, the sheep went limp. Inch by inch, the renegade was ratchetted up the face of the cliff. When it came over the ledge, the men loosened the rope around its neck and led it back toward the pickup like a dog at heel.

As the mob passed us, I met eyes with one of the shepherds. He smiled and said, "It's not easy work."

The surfers gathered close as the herders shoved the last of the sheep into the truck bed.

One of the older men greeted us and asked how our stay had been so far. Dane explained that we were searching for surf.

"There's no waves now, and it's too rocky," he said, furrowing his brow. "Sometimes we have waves up to seven or eight meters. But then it's too big for surfing."

"I'd be happy with that," Dane said.

One of the younger men looked to the others and laughed.

As we came down the road into the narrow, black-basalt fjord again, Justin Quintal rolled his window down. The waves were flat. The air was cold, and it carried the odor of burning wool. Someone in town was torching sheep heads. That evening, I walked to the beach to look for signs of waves. I followed the water's edge around the bay, straining to see in the dark. I heard a voice behind me. A figure stood between me and the village, silhouetted by the glow of the town. I stopped and the man came closer. He was thin and wore a jumpsuit, his hair askew.

"What are you doing here?" he asked.

"I'm with a group looking for surf in the Faroes," I said, "but we haven't had much luck."

After spending the day driving around the island, I told him, this fjord looked the most promising to us.

"Would you like to see what I've been doing today?" he asked.

I followed him over to the back of a house to a door that led into a dark cellar. He ushered me in. The air was warm, thick, and sour. The sounds of heavy breathing and grunting encroached on all sides. The flick of a light switch revealed a dozen sheep in wooden pens. Across the room, plastic trays stuffed with organs lined a counter. They seemed organized by size, color, type, and texture. A bloodstained bench occupied the middle of the room. Beneath it, a hole in the ground opened to a running stream.

"I've been slaughtering today," the man said. "Can I offer you a beer?"

I accepted, relieved to be leaving the cellar. I waited outside his house as he fetched the beer. A few moments later he returned with two bottles of Gull, then led me to his garage. It was a well-lit room with a workbench that displayed rows of the grinning black heads. "Nothing is wasted," he said. "With the heads, we burn the wool away so it's edible. We eat everything, even the eyes. And the blood, too. We pour it into the sheep's stomach with cinnamon and sugar, then sew it up."

I tried to believe that a meal of blood and eyeballs didn't bother me, but I couldn't stomach the thought of an eyeball rolling around in my mouth.

"The best is the fermented meat," the man said. He drew me through another door, into a wooden shed where rows of sheep carcasses hung naked and red. Apparently, they were being prepared for Christmas. "My family's lived here as far back as anyone can remember—since the Vikings—and we have always made this meat. I think I still have a piece from last year for you."

The man disappeared behind the carcasses and rifled through his cabinets. I took a deep breath. I tried to block out modern standards of meat preparation. I told myself I would stomach the delicacy like a proper Viking. He returned holding a moldy shank. His hand pressed into the waxy skin and, with a small knife, he made a tender cut as if slicing off a piece of cheese. The gash revealed dark purple flesh. He held up a piece for me to smell. My knees weakened. My stomach threatened to spring out of my mouth and into the tray of sheep guts. "So good, right?" he said. "Go ahead, try it."

It tasted exactly as one would imagine green and purple lamb would taste. I tried to wash it away with beer, but the alcohol made little difference. I smiled. I shook his hand, thanked him for his hospitality, and headed out. On the walk home my stomach got the better of me.

TOP
THIS FJORD WAVE IS AS FICKLE AS IT IS BEAUTIFUL. TYLER WARREN, CAPITALIZING.

BOTTOM
DANE GUDUASKAS, MAKING FRIENDS WITH THE LOCALS.

At the house, I found the rest of the crew gathered around a computer, discussing the next day's swell. It still predicted solid surf matched by offshore winds. Through the night, wind and rain battered the house. It whipped through the valley and whistled through the corridors of the village. In the morning, while it was still dark, I heard a noise at the front door. Dane was already up, coming back from a pre-dawn surf check.

"Anything out there?" I asked.

"It's still pretty dark, hard to tell," he said as he kicked his boots off in the mud room. "But the wind is definitely offshore."

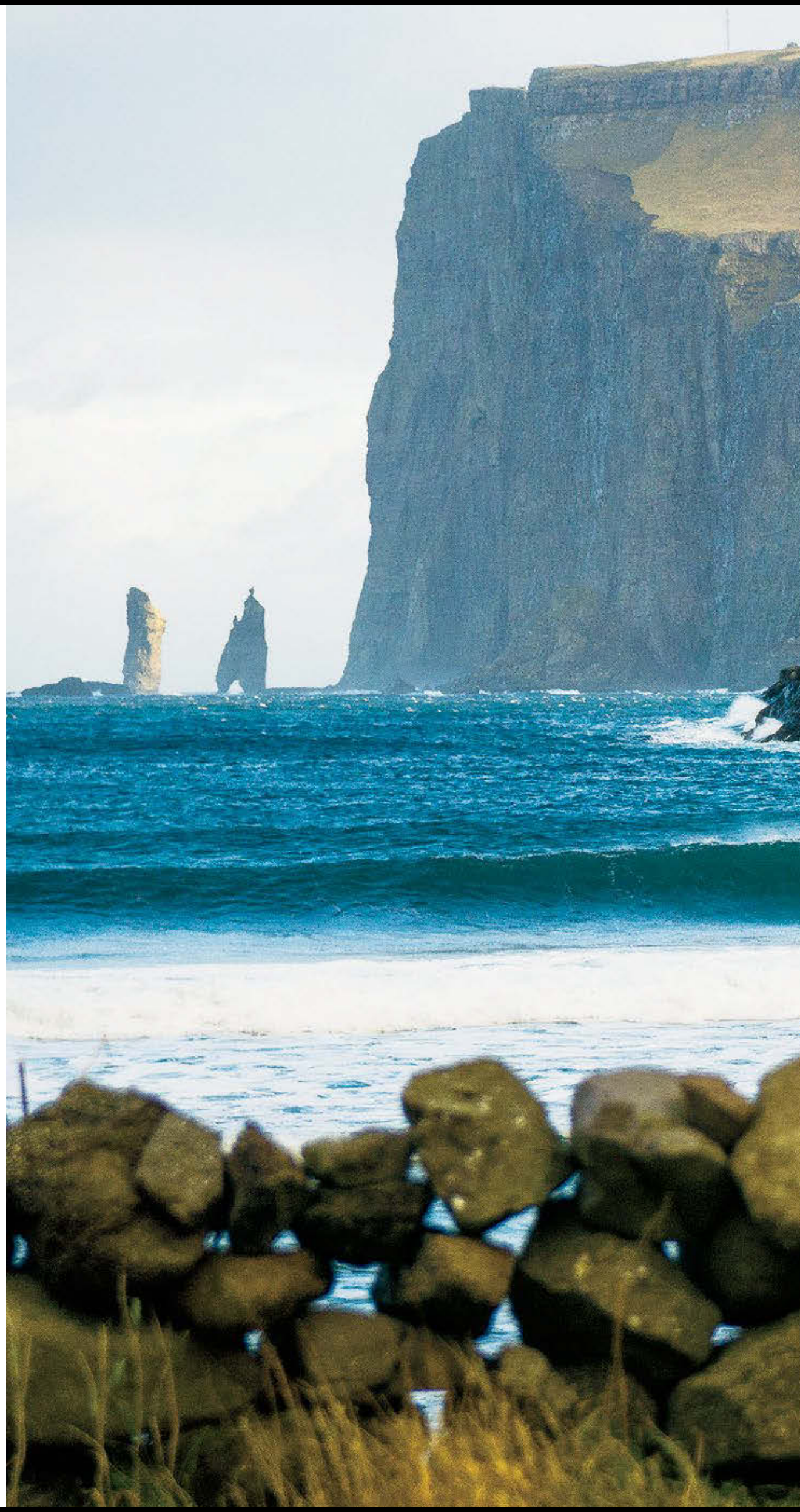
We sat at the kitchen table, drinking tea and eating a few slices of dense Faroese bread. We waited for the light. By mid-morning, overhead sets lined the mouth of the bay and an offshore wind sent large white plumes across the water. Wedges peeled off both sides of the fjord walls.

Dane, Sam, Justin, and Tyler Warren paddled back and forth across the bay, trying to chase down shifty overhead tubes. They muscled under exploding lips as sets came in. After lunch the swell backed off and cleaned up. The left on the far side of the bay was merging with a side wave that transformed it into a grinding tube section. They gathered in a tight pack and traded waves. After a while the left stopped working and the right turned on. The surfers migrated over and repeated it all in reverse.

By the next morning the swell had deteriorated as predicted, although a small right-hander still wedged up in the corner of the bay. The crew headed out for one last surf before packing their bags. We walked through the narrow village streets toward the break, passing the stone houses, wood sheds, and grass roofs. But this morning was different. The smell of burnt wool was gone and snowflakes tumbled in the air. The sheep heads that had been lying out in the driveway of our neighbors' houses were now being put away. The slaughter was over.

Dane jogged to the water with a bright-yellow board under his arm and a huge grin on his face. Ahead of him a man stood in a driveway, packing up his sheep-head collection and moving it back into his garage. They greeted each other as he passed—both wrapping up work at the end of the week.

At the edge of town, Dane paused to watch the lineup. A right peeled flawlessly into the cove. Above it a few sheep still grazed along the slope of the fjord, and across from him, a villager carted the season's last wheelbarrow of guts past the wave, just as his fathers had done for more than a thousand years.





WHERE ANCIENT GLACIERS ONCE CARVED A LINE THROUGH THE BEDROCK, SAM HAMMER NOW SETS A LINE OF HIS OWN.

Philippine

This page, Daniel Jones

Dream

Daniel and Mikala Jones recount their return to the island chain's long-forgotten gem

As told to Justin Housman *Photos by* Scott Hammonds

Finding a slice of uncrowded tropical perfection doesn't always mean you have to pioneer the place yourself. As hard as it may be to believe, the outside world occasionally forgets that certain breaks ever existed. Take this epic right-hand funhouse in the Philippines. Simply not being Cloud Nine–its slightly more accessible neighbor to the south–was enough to relegate this world-class wave to the dust-covered bottom shelves of surf-travel lore. Though its name was once familiar to Western surf-trippers, most surfers today have likely never heard of the place. This past September, riding a seasoned globetrotter's hunch, Mikala Jones and his brother Daniel–who have family ties to the Philippines–chased a typhoon swell to this Filipino slab. The hunch paid off. They arrived just as swell began lighting the place up, and the Jones brothers found themselves on Cloud Nine after all.

“Daniel didn’t even ask where we were going. I just told him, ‘I booked a ticket for you to the Philippines. Get to Manila, I’ll meet you there, and I’ll take care of the rest.’ He never once said, ‘Where are we surfing?’ I think he probably knew we were going to a right, ’cause I never take him to lefts.” *Mikala Jones*

This page, Daniel Jones, *Opposite,* Mikala Jones







D

"I think because of the swell direction it was a little slabbier, shorter, and thicker than normal. It's an intense wave. It peaks right off a swirling rock boil. Normally on a slab you want to take off behind the peak, but because of the boil, you had to take off right under the slabbing section. You know it's going to barrel, so all you want to do is make it to the bottom and not pearl. Once you drop in, it starts to go so square at the bottom. When you're first surfing a spot that heavy, you really want to try to ease your way into it, mainly because you don't want to hit the reef and end your trip in the first 15 minutes."

"There was a local contest while we were there, and almost all of the guys in the contest were from Cloud Nine. They come from really good waves and they were absolutely charging. I've surfed the Cloud Nine contest before, and I actually competed in the Philippines National Championship when I was 15. When I was there, I gave a board to this guy named Edwin. After that, I didn't go to the Philippines for about 10 years. On my first trip back, I see Edwin and he's like, 'Hey, man, I won eight national titles on that board you gave me!' That was really cool to hear."









"It's strange because people go to that wave, but I don't think anybody's really scored it quite like we did. There are older guys living there who say it used to get crowded in the '80s, but now there's almost no one. Cloud Nine has just taken over so much of the hype, this spot has basically been forgotten." *Mikala Jones*



"You couldn't take off behind the peak at that wave; you had to take off right at the apex, which isn't cool. You want to be able to backdoor it. The bottom is super-sharp fire coral. It's not like Cloud Nine, which has a soft, flat, spongy reef. There were lots of waves I was paddling for but then pulled back on; I probably should have gone on those. Daniel didn't pull back on anything. Daniel was charging. I was blown away."
Mikala Jones

This page, Mikala Jones, *Opposite,* Daniel Jones





D

"If you fell, you were definitely going to hit bottom. On one of my first waves, I was really deep in the barrel and it was spitting so hard I couldn't really see anything. I drifted into the wall and went over the falls. I sort of put my arms out in front of me and hit the bottom with my hands and cartwheeled right off the reef. When the tide got low it would get way too gnarly. There were times when I remember thinking, 'What are we doing out here?'"

ALMOST NINO

Scenes from an epic West Coast winter

There is nary a phrase that perks a California surfer's ears up more than "El Niño." You hear whispers of it every season, in every seaside parking lot from Crescent City to Imperial Beach (and beyond). Truth be told, we haven't experienced El Niño in earnest since the famed winter of 1997–'98 (ask any parking-lot dweller about that one and you'll be there all day). So when meteorologists made an early prediction that it would likely be an El Niño winter, California surfers were waxing their step-ups in unison. Sure enough, the coastline was battered by back-to-back-to-back swells turning on every iconic wave from Cardiff to Mavericks. Funny thing is, El Niño never actually happened. In terms of sea-surface temperatures in the equatorial Pacific, it was a more or less average season. Lucky for West Coast surfers, a number of epic swells missed the memo.

Cam Faris, Northern Baja.
Photo by Green



Left
"A lot of people were expecting a very active season, but as we know, Mother Nature always has the last say," explains **Jamie Mitchell.** "Apart from a few big ones here and there, it hasn't been all that huge. But there were a few highlights that made for some really memorable sessions. That December 20th swell at Mavericks was one of the biggest and best days we've had there in some time. It was pretty hectic. I was sitting more on the inside of the pack when this wave came through. It sort of backed off a touch and then mutated into this thick double-up. I had a pretty steep takeoff and then there was a lot of whitewater at the bottom. Once I hit that, I went down. But, all things considered, this was a very special day complete with some amazing rides and some crazy wipeouts."
Photo by Pompermayer

Below
"When I think of an El Niño winter, I picture stormy conditions and big swells," says **Josh Mulcoy.** "Waves like the Harbor and Rivermouth in Santa Cruz really turn on when it's like that. We've had a ton of swell this winter, but we haven't had a ton of storms and really massive days. There have been plenty of perfect days, though. This wave can get pretty crowded, but the surf had been so good for so long that people were either surfing other waves in the area or just too tired to paddle out. We had it pretty much to ourselves that day."
Photo by McInnis



"This year seems a bit abnormal considering how warm it's been and how much clean swell we've had," says **Derrick Disney.** "The conditions have been pretty much perfect more times than I can remember. There was a day that I drove up the coast near Los Angeles with my photographer friend, just searching for waves and hoping we'd find something. Sure enough, we actually found this gem right off the side of the road. It was perfect, and I surfed it by myself all day long. Everyone else must have been surfed out or surfing other waves. It felt like my own personal *Endless Summer* moment."
Photos by Hurtado











Left
"I'm always a little suspicious when it comes to predicting an El Niño year," says **Rusty Long.** "There's a lot of hype surrounding it, so I keep an eye on the water temperatures and follow the storms pretty closely. But it's hard to know exactly what a whole season will look like. There were a few special days this winter that I'll remember for a long time. This day was one of them. Most places have gotten so crowded that it can be hard to get away, but we keep this break under wraps and we had an opportunity to surf it with just our crew. Having a session like this, with just a few of your friends out, doesn't happen very often."
Photo by Beard

Above
"We've had so much fun surf this winter it's ridiculous," says **Timmy Curran.** "When you hear it's going to be an El Niño winter, you really look forward to getting a bunch of swell and rain. But instead it seems we've had a ton of really fun waves and warm weather without the storms. I've followed swells all over the world, but nothing gets me more stoked than good waves at home in Oxnard. If there's swell and Santa Ana winds, like we've had this season, I'm up before the sun every single day."
Photo by MacLennan





Above
"Malibu can be a little lackluster during the winter, so you're always forced to do some driving," says **Dillon Perillo,** who was spotted here smashing lips in the nearby Ventura County. "It seemed like most of the swells this season had longer periods, so the beach breaks were quite walled and closed out. On this day, I went looking for a nice point to handle the swell and ended up getting some really fun ones."
Photo by Mehren

Right
"El Niño means rainy days, sessions in brown, stormy water, and scary swells," says **Pat Gudauskas.** "This winter was almost the opposite: crystal-clear conditions, warmer water, and lots of lined-up swell. That's not to say that we didn't have any really big days, because we did, but it felt like this season leaned more toward perfect than massive."
Photo by Glaser


VANS



"When I think of El Niño, I think of those massive sessions at Mavericks when Flea, Pete Mel, and all the boys were really pushing it back in the winter of 1997–'98," says **Shawn Dollar.** "It seemed like back then it was huge for weeks on end. So from a big-wave perspective, this winter hasn't lived up to that. With that said, I'm not disappointed in the winter at all. We've had a lot of fun swell and the water has been warmer than usual, so this season has been a blast." No complaints at Ocean Beach.
Photo by Craig

STOP
SHOP
DROP

surfer
[THE BAR]

It's more than a bar. It's an original.







shopsurferthebar.com



HOT 100

2015

The Definitive Ranking of the World's Best Young Surfers



MEN'S #1, KOLOHE ANDINO. PHOTO BY FREDEN

BILLABONG

GRIFFIN COLAPINTO | TEAHUPO'O , TAHITI



PHOTO : STACY




LIKE
WEARING
NOTHING
MIRAGE
THE ULTIMATE BOARDSHORT
SURFING
IS EVERYTHING
RIP CURL
LIVE THE SEARCH
WYATT MCHALE WEARS MIRAGE AGGROGAME



PHOTO - RIGHT | MORAN - LEFT | MILLER

SUBJECT | Jack Freestone **LOCATION** | North Shore **EQUIPMENT** | JJF Techflex - Ride Number 4.5



jack rides futures.

| WELCOME TO THE TEAM



MATT BANTING

THE AG47 AMPHIBIAN BONDED BOARDSHORT



THE ORIGINAL BOARDSHORT COMPANY

muzikzu

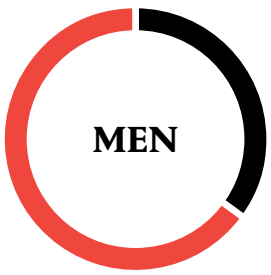
BREAKING DOWN THE YOUTH

An Analysis of the World's Best Young Surfers

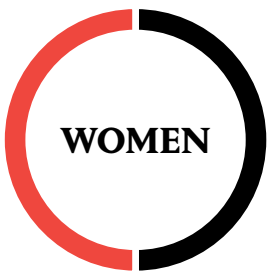
Goofy vs. Regular:

40% Goofy
60% Regular

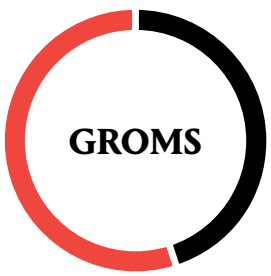
Breakdown:



35% Goofy
65% Regular



50% Goofy
50% Regular



45% Goofy
55% Regular

Nationalities:

32% USA
28% Hawaii
20% Australia
8% Brazil
3% South Africa
3% Europe
2% Latin America
2% Japan
1% Indonesia
1% Tahiti

USA Breakdown:

47% Hawaii
40% West
13% East

Average Age of the Hot 100:

17 yrs

Breakdown:

Men	18 yrs
Women	17 yrs
Groms	13 yrs

Percentage of Hot 100 Surfers on the World Tour:

9% (Men 4, Women 5)

World Tour Rookies:

Men: Matt Banting, Italo Ferreira
Women: Tatiana Weston-Webb

Best Result on 2014 World Tour by a Hot 100 Surfer:

Tyler Wright (2 event wins)

Biggest Mover:

Italo Ferreira

Sometimes a surf star can fly under the radar all the way to the big leagues. Although Italo Ferreira has a long and decorated competitive track record in Brazil, he hasn't garnered nearly the attention abroad that his talents deserve. This year his name was printed in the Hot 100 for the first time (at Men's No. 8 no less.) That's a 72-spot jump, not bad for a first timer. While he was almost invisible to the surf world 12 months ago, Ferreira now sits squarely under the spotlight as a rookie on the World Championship Tour.

Other Notable First-Timers:

Women: Mahina Maeda (No. 6)
Groms: Wyatt McHale (No. 11)

GoPro

Be a *HERO.*



THIS IS YOUR LIFE. **BE A HERO.**



HERO4

BLACK + SILVER

OVER **60** ACCESSORIES + APP & SOFTWARE

See the full lineup at gopro.com





PHOTO BY MILLER

MY ADVICE TO THE CLASS OF 2015

PAST HOT 100 WINNER AND PERENNIAL WORLD TITLE CONTENDER JORDY SMITH IMPARTS SOME WISDOM
By Jordy Smith

You have to crawl before you walk. In surfing, it's so important to get the basics down and then take it from there. If your foundation is strong, you'll have all the tools you need to become a well-rounded surfer.

As a teenager, you outgrow boards often. I was fortunate enough to have my dad as my shaper, but I definitely had a few growth spurts where I got too big for the board I was riding at the time. A simple temporary solution is to switch to a slightly bigger fin, which helps maintain the board's drive.

You're gonna lose more than you win. Even Kelly Slater loses all the time. How do you deal with it? You have to be mature about it. All losses are hard, but if you can look at what you did wrong and learn from it, then it will help you in the long run.

Dealing with sponsorships is always tough. You may not get offered the brand that you grew up loving, but at a certain point you realize that it doesn't matter. You should be thankful anytime there is a brand, organization, or family member committed to enabling you to chase your dreams.

Remain composed. If you want to win heats, that's the best advice I can give you.

Distractions: There are a lot of them. Whether you're talking about surfing or about life in general, it's important to have a goal in mind. Before you do something, give it a bit of thought and ask yourself, "Is whatever I'm about to do contributing toward achieving my goal?" If the answer is no, don't do it.

Don't take things too seriously. Surfing is the greatest sport and lifestyle in the world, and the best surfer in the water is the one having the most fun.


T&C Surf Designs
Hawai'i
finn mcgill
STAY Stoked!
live like this
check fcsurf.com


KOLOHE
ANDINO



When SURFER first started compiling and ranking the best young surfers on the planet back in the 1980s, the editors struggled to find enough names to populate the list. Sure, there were easily enough surfers, but the early Hot 100'ers lacked the exposure that the current crop of young surfers enjoy. Today, team rosters are overflowing with talent, YouTube is clogged with high-performance edits, and young surfers are taking the act of riding a wave in varied and exciting directions. As a result, compiling the Hot 100 is more difficult than ever (imagine explaining "social media reach" to an editor in the '80s.) Considering the breadth of talented young surfers promoting their skills online, 100 spots fill up very quickly.

The Definitive Ranking of the World's Best Young Surfers

We know how coveted these spots are, and how much sponsors, parents, and the surfers themselves place on being included, so we painstakingly weigh competitive results, media exposure, style, technique, and yes, social media reach with the amorphous "x-factor" each surfer has. The methodology isn't exactly scientific, but it's thorough and exhaustive and the resulting list is made up of young surfers who are, without a doubt, the future of surfing. – ***Brendon Thomas***

MEN

01 **Kolohe Andino**
San Clemente, California

02 **Filipe Toledo**
Ubatuba, Brazil

03 **Noa Deane**
Colangatta, Australia

04 **Koa Smith**
Kilauea, Hawaii

05 **Matt Banting**
Port MacQuarie, Australia

06 **Creed McTaggart**
Margaret River, Australia

07 **Parker Coffin**
Santa Barbara, California

08 **Italo Ferreira**
Baía Formosa, Brazil

09 **Ian Gouveia**
Florianópolis, Brazil

10 **Jack Robinson**
Margaret River, Australia

11 **Leonardo Fioravanti**
Rome, Italy

12 **Yago Dora**
Florianópolis, Brazil

13 **Seth Moniz**
Honolulu, Hawaii

14 **Soli Bailey**
Byron Bay, Australia

15 **Kalani David**
Sunset Beach, Hawaii

16 **Mikey Wright**
Culburra, Australia

17 **Jacob Willcox**
Margaret River, Australia

18 **Josh Moniz**
Honolulu, Hawaii

19 **Lucas Silveira**
Florianópolis, Brazil

20 **Cam Richards**
Pawleys Island, South Carolina

21 **Ian Gentil**
Paia, Hawaii

22 **Kanoa Igarashi**
Huntington Beach, California

23 **Taylor Clark**
Encinitas, California

24 **Jake Marshall**
Encinitas, California

25 **Griffin Colapinto**
San Clemente, California

26 **Slade Prestwich**
Durban, South Africa

27 **Cooper Chapman**
North Narrabeen, Australia

28 **Nathan Florence**
Pupukea, Hawaii

29 **Victor Bernardo**
Guarujá, Brazil

30 **Mitch Parkinson**
Coolangatta, Australia

31 **Vasco Ribeiro**
Cascais, Portugal

32 **Luke Hynd**
Burleigh Heads, Australia

33 **Kai Hing**
Sunshine Coast, Australia

34 **Makai McNamara**
Sunset Beach, Hawaii

35 **Noé Mar McGonagle**
Pavones, Costa Rica

36 **Eli Steele**
Moffat Beach, Australia

37 **Hiroto Ohhara**
Chiba, Japan

38 **Pat Curren**
Santa Barbara, California

39 **Riley Laing**
North Entrance, Australia

40 **Noah Schweizer**
New Smyrna Beach, Florida

41 **Tim Bisso**
Saint-Francois, Guadeloupe

42 **Landon McNamara**
Sunset Beach, Hawaii

43 **Matahi Drollet**
Teahupoo, Tahiti

44 **Ivan Florence**
Pupukea, Hawaii

45 **Nic Hdez**
Santa Cruz, California

46 **Jacob Davis**
Capo Beach, California

47 **Kevin Schulz**
San Clemente, California

48 **Hiroto Arai**
Yokohama, Japan

49 **Imaikalani Devault**
Makawao, Hawaii

50 **Noa Mizuno**
Honolulu, Hawaii

51 **Tyler Larronde**
Haiku, Hawaii

52 **Colt Ward**
San Clemente, California

53 **Russell Bierke**
South Coast, Australia

54 **Dylan Lightfoot**
Jeffreys Bay, South Africa

55 **Skip McCullough**
La Jolla, California

56 **Luke Marks**
Melbourne Beach, Florida

57 **Daniel Glenn**
New Smyrna Beach, Florida

58 **Jordy Lawler**
Narrabeen, Australia

59 **Jake Kelley**
Newbury Park, California

60 **Colin Moran**
Newport Beach, California

WOMEN

01 **Tyler Wright**
Lennox Head, Australia

02 **Lakey Peterson**
Santa Barbara, California

03 **Nikki Van Dijk**
Phillip Island, Australia

04 **Tatiana Weston-Webb**
Princeville, Hawaii

05 **Alessa Quizon**
Waianae, Hawaii

06 **Mahina Maeda**
Sunset Beach, Hawaii

07 **Quincy Davis**
Montauk, New York

08 **Keely Andrew**
Sunshine Coast, Australia

09 **Dax McGill**
Sunset Beach, Hawaii

10 **Brisa Hennessy**
Kailua, Hawaii

11 **Bailey Nagy**
Sunset Beach, Hawaii

12 **Tia Blanco**
San Clemente, California

13 **Moana Jones**
Haleiwa, Hawaii

14 **Caroline Marks**
Melbourne Beach, Florida

15 **Sarah Baum**
Amanzimtoti, South Africa

16 **Brianna Cope**
Kaui, Hawaii

17 **Frankie Harrer**
Malibu, California

18 **Ellie-Jean Coffey**
Coolangatta, Australia

19 **Meah Collins**
Newport Beach, California

20 **Honolua Blomfield**
Haleiwa, Hawaii

GROMS

01 **Stevie Pittman**
Atlantic Beach, North Carolina

02 **Barron Mamiya**
Haleiwa, Hawaii

03 **Noah Beschen**
Sunset Beach, Hawaii

04 **Finn McGill**
Sunset Beach, Hawaii

05 **Samuel Pupo**
São Paulo, Brazil

06 **Sebastian Williams**
Oaxaca, Mexico

07 **Nick Marshall**
Encinitas, California

08 **Kyuss King**
Byron Bay, Australia

09 **Eithan Osborne**
Ventura, California

10 **Tyler Gunter**
Newport Beach, California

11 **Wyatt McHale**
Pupukea, Hawaii

12 **Rio Waida**
Bali, Indonesia

13 **Noah Hill**
Oceanside, California

14 **Cole Houshmand**
San Clemente, California

15 **Mateus Herdy**
Florianópolis, Brazil

16 **Tommy Coleman**
Vero Beach, Florida

17 **Jett Schilling**
San Clemente, California

18 **Eli Hanneman**
Lahaina, Hawaii

19 **Ryder Guest**
Princeville, Hawaii

20 **Jackson Bunch**
Paia, Hawaii

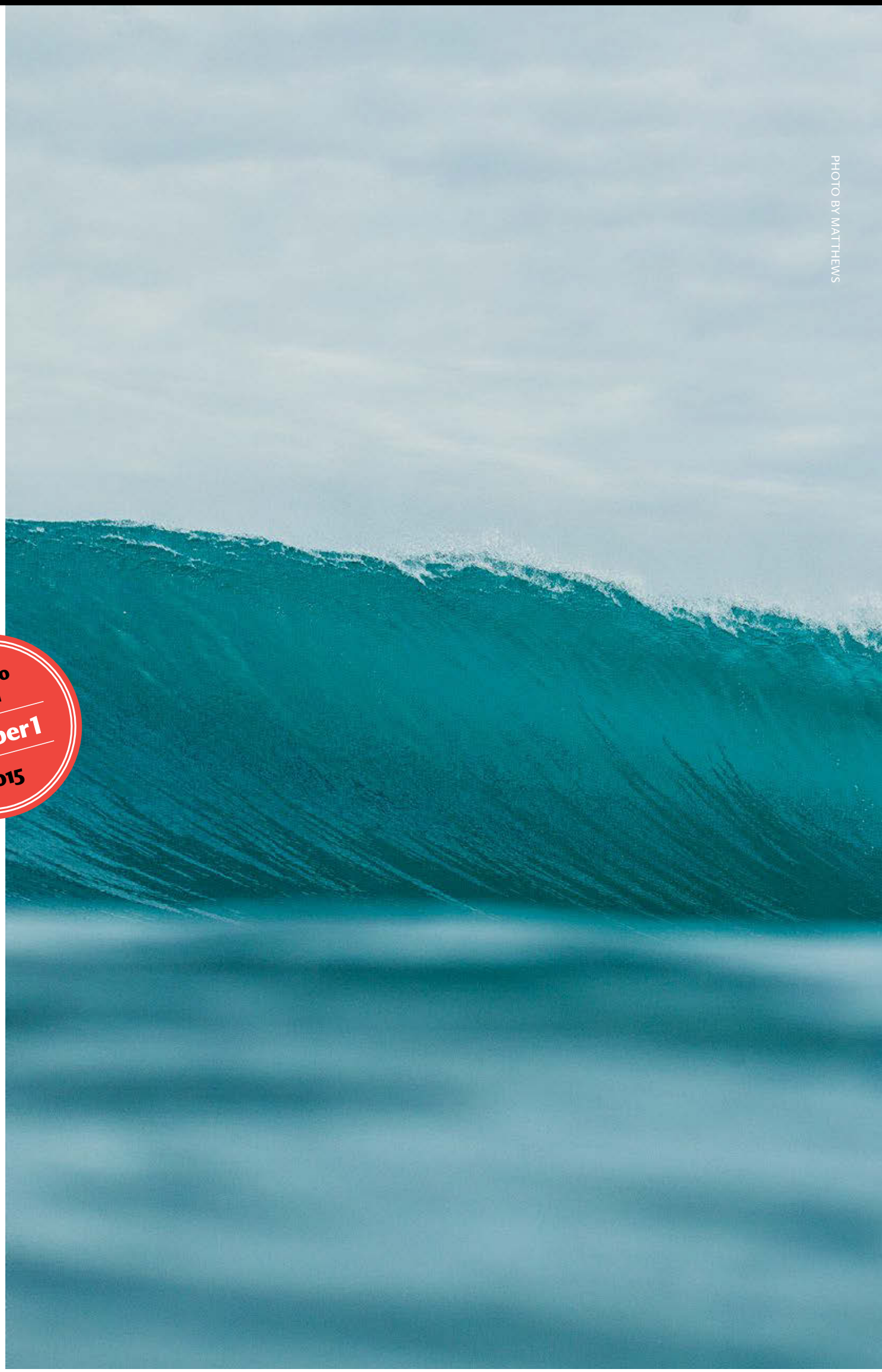


PHOTO BY MATTHEWS

Hot 100 Men Number1 2015

KOLOHE ANDINO ON EARNING HIS PLACE AMONG THE WORLD'S BEST SURFERS

Interview by Todd Prodanovich

The World Tour can be a humbling place, and no one knows this better than Kolohe Andino. San Clemente's golden child grew up winning everything under the sun, but when he qualified for the World Tour back in 2012, he hit a brick wall made of the most talented competitors in the world. For the first time in his life he was a small fish in a big pond, and he had to deal with losing—and losing often. To many, it seemed strange that Andino would falter, but it shouldn't. Despite the fact that he has appeared on podiums, in surf videos, and in the Hot 100 throughout his life, Kolohe Andino's still only 20 years old. To come as far as he has is already a massive accomplishment, and this is only the beginning.

KOLOHE ANDINO





In the last year, you started winning heats on Tour, finished in the top 10 at Surfer Poll, and now you've won the Hot 100. What happened to you this year? What changed?
It mainly started with my boards. I changed up what I was riding and my surfing started to feel better and I could throw more spray, which is good because the World Tour is basically the spray-and-barrel tour right now. If you can't ride the tube well or throw a lot of spray with your turns, then you're gonna have a shocker. After that, I had a good result in Brazil, started feeling more confident, and it just kind of snowballed from there.

I'd imagine that having confidence is as important as having magic boards when competing on Tour.
Yeah, when you watch Gabriel Medina compete, that guy is running on pure confidence. If you're in a room with all the guys on Tour, you can tell that he's the most confident guy there;it's like he can feel his own aura or something. He thinks he's the best surfer in the world, he thinks he should win world titles, and that's why he wins as much as he does. Confidence is important in any sport at the top level. Everyone is so talented that the difference between the guy winning a heat and the guy losing is usually just mental. When you're losing and you're really down, you have to look for any excuse to rebuild that confidence. Even something as small as one good session can get the ball rolling, and once you get a few good results in a row, you start backing yourself in a bigger way. For me, after I got second and third in Brazil and Fiji, I finally felt like I belonged on Tour and that I should be competing against the best guys.

Plus, after a few good results your seed improves and you don't have to surf against the top guys in the early rounds.
Yeah, it's tough when you have a low seed and you come up against really gnarly guys in your first few heats. But honestly, if you want to win the contest, you know you're going to have to face those guys eventually anyway. It shouldn't matter who you're surfing against; you need to believe that you can smoke any of them. I was watching an interview with Muhammad Ali recently, and the reason he talked so much trash before his fights was because he knew his opponents would get so angry that they'd forget their strategy. Sometimes when you surf against someone who beat you badly in the past, you want to get them back so bad that you find yourself forgetting your strategy. You just have to stay relaxed and believe in your ability.

You've had people invent rivalries between you and other surfers in the past, but are there even any rivalries on Tour anymore?

I FEEL LIKE A LOT OF THE MOVIE PARTS THESE DAYS ARE ALL JUST CRAZY AIRS INTO THE FLATS, WHICH ARE KIND OF UN-RELATABLE TO MOST PEOPLE.



Opposite
At 17 years old, Andino was the youngest surfer to qualify for the World Tour in 2012. Now in his fourth year on Tour, he's grown into a powerful competitor.
Photo by Lawrence

Above
No stranger to the Hot 100, Andino made his first appearance in the Grom division more than a decade ago. He's been ascending ever since.
Photo by Matthews

Well, I think everyone just knows how good their competition is. On the Tour, you have to surf your best in every heat or you're gonna lose, so picking one guy to focus all your energy on is stupid. You might not even surf against him the whole year, so it just doesn't make sense. I'm gonna treat every heat the same regardless of if I'm against Gabriel or Kelly or some rookie. I don't think there are really rivalries on Tour anymore because everyone shares that mindset.

Competing on the Tour was your dream since you were a kid. Now that you've been at it for a few years, is it everything you expected?
When I first got on Tour, for my first two years I just kept thinking, "Whoa, I can't believe I'm on Tour; these are all my favorite surfers. Kelly is right over there, don't act like an idiot." [Laughs.] I was really starstruck by guys like Joel Parkinson, Taj Burrow, and Mick Fanning at first, but now I look at those guys as my peers. I realized that we're all in the same place trying to do the same thing, and I really can't idolize them like that if I want to beat them. If you're starstruck in a heat, they've already beaten you. Now that I'm used to the Tour, I'd say it's pretty similar to what I hoped it would be. I think that all the good surfing that goes on around the Tour has really pushed me. We're all improving so quickly just from being in that environment.

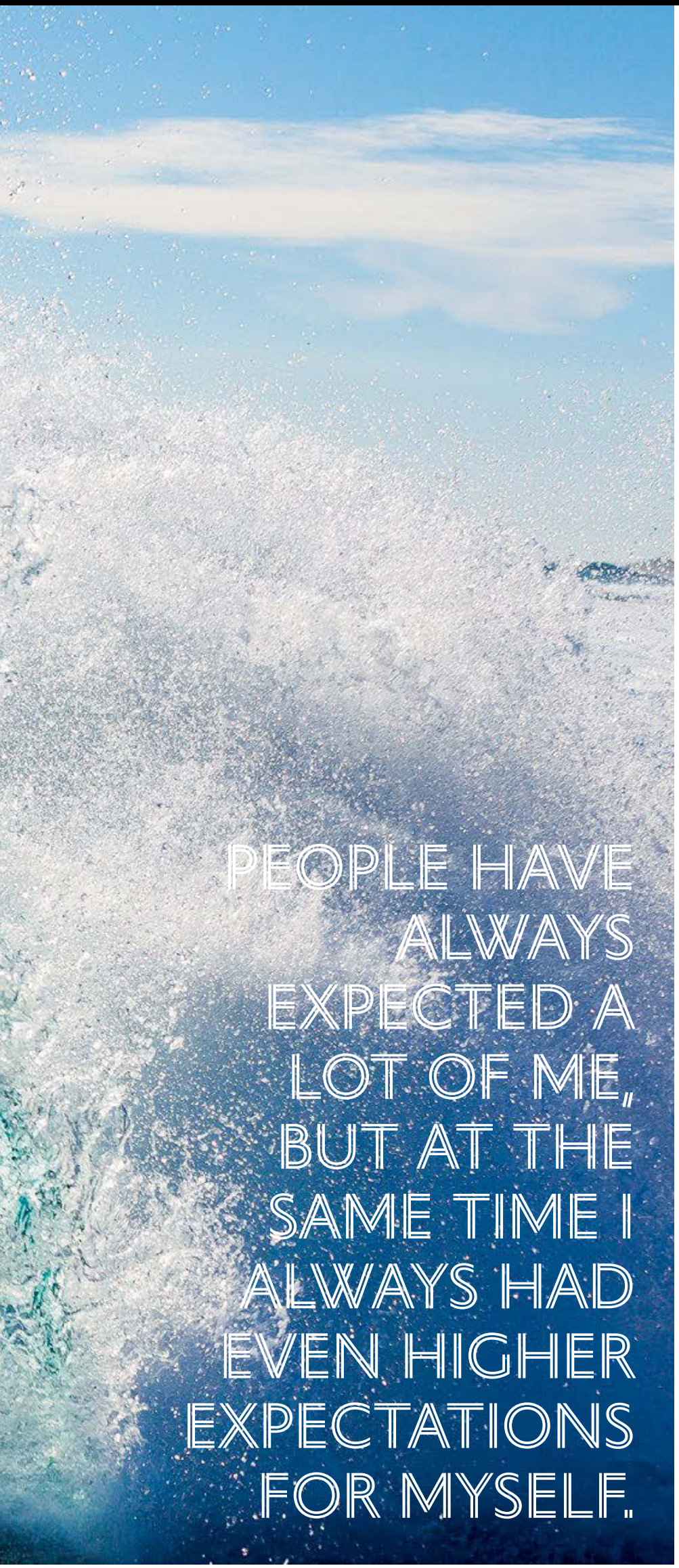
It seems like a few years ago the best surfing in the world was happening in videos and the surfing on Tour was pretty tame in comparison. Has that changed?
I think the best surfing today is either happening in the events or at least around the events. Kelly's 540 happened around the Portugal event, John John Florence had that big alley-oop in the Bali Pro, and Filipe Toledo does something crazy in pretty much every heat he surfs. I haven't seen [Kai Neville's latest surf film] *Cluster* yet, and there could be some crazy stuff in there that proves me wrong, but I think the best surfing is happening on the Tour, for sure. Plus people are starting to respect the kind of surfing that happens on Tour more than before. Especially at waves like Bells, which is a really hard wave to surf well because you need to have so much power. I feel like a lot of the movie parts these days are all just crazy airs into the flats, which are kind of un-relatable to most people. You have to be really well rounded to make it on Tour, and I think people appreciate seeing that kind of surfing more now.

We haven't seen any big video parts from you since *Dear Suburbia* back in 2013. Are you hoarding clips for something?
Yeah, I'm working on a project that will probably come out around April. I filmed all year with some of my friends, and one of the main reasons I wanted to do it was to show everybody how well Ian Crane surfs. I surf with him every day and he rips so hard, and when you film him in the right waves he's gonna look like a superstar. Everyone can watch me surf the contests, so I wasn't really putting a ton of pressure on myself to do the craziest stuff in this project. I just wanted to do something cool with my friends.

I know you've had some ups and some downs over the last few years. What has been the highlight for you, and when were you at your lowest?
I think the highlight was during the event in Tahiti this year. The visions I got from inside the barrel will definitely stick with me for the rest of my life. My low point was probably at Bells last year. I lost to Kelly in Round 1 because he got a score that he probably shouldn't have; he did a floater and fell and got something like a 3.5 for it. It was enough to win the heat, and I got super mad and just screamed. The ASP said they were going to fine me for it, but they never did.



Learning from the best surfers in lineups around the world, Andino's approach is ever-evolving and his tube riding has progressed in leaps. Putting his skills to the test in Western Australia.
Photo by Matthews



to think about it for a while. But then when it aired during the NFL games, I was actually kind of stoked on how it all looked. I mean, I was on TV and Morgan Freeman was saying my name and actually pronouncing it the right way. [Laughs.] It was pretty sick, and I didn't feel as bad at that point because I think everyone who was surfing that day had probably forgotten about it.

Let's talk about Tahiti. Everyone seemed to be keeping their cool in post-heat interviews, but the waves looked terrifying. What was the vibe in the water actually like during that event?

Everyone was watching these waves and saying, "Oh my God, it just looks so perfect." Which it was, but it was also giant and could totally kill you. I think everyone was pretty nervous except for John John and Kelly. But the dynamic changes so much when you see everyone else going for it. Before you actually surf those waves, you look at it and you think, "My life is over, I'm going to die out there." But then you get a couple, realize you can do it, and start pushing yourself deeper. Before you know it, you're feeling confident, pulling in super deep, and even if you don't make it you're still having a sick time. The morning of the last day, it was still dark out and I took off on this crazy set wave that wasn't really makeable and I had to jump off my board. I got washed into the lagoon and I realized that if I survived that one, I could probably live through a couple more of those.

You look pretty comfortable at Teahupoo these days. I mean, you ordered a pizza from inside the tube. What was it like being part of a huge commercial shoot like that?

Oh man, that was a long...long three days. We shot it before the event, and there were a bunch of guys out there surfing and getting ready for the contest when the production crew rolled up with helicopters and, like, 20 boats. The crew was like, "OK, we're going to clear the lineup now and Kolohe's gonna ride some tubes and act like he's ordering a pizza." It was heavy. Of course the guys who were surfing were super bummed with me. I was just so embarrassed sitting on the back of the ski, thinking, "There's no way this is going to be worth it. I never want to do anything like this again." I felt really bad and tried not

You kind of grew up in the spotlight and have had a lot of expectation placed on you since you were a little kid. How do you think that's affected you?

People have always expected a lot of me, but at the same time I always had even higher expectations for myself. I want to do the best I can, and when I don't succeed, I believe in myself and know that eventually I will. So I try not to pay attention to other people's expectations, and I definitely don't pay attention to comments sections. I used to when I first started noticing negative comments about me online, and I was pretty bummed on it. It was like these strangers knew exactly what I was insecure about in my surfing, and that's where they'd hit me. It's like when you're already nervous about something and then some 13-year-old kid comes up to you and just goes, "Man, you look sweaty." You just get even more nervous. I feel like comments sections are just a dark, dark hole.

For years people have speculated about when the younger generation would step up and win a world title. Now that Medina has broken that barrier, do you feel like it's more attainable?

Yeah, when I first got on Tour a couple years ago, Mick, Joel, and Kelly seemed almost unbeatable. But now there are only a few spots where those guys are harder to beat than Gabriel. He's got to be the hardest guy to draw right now. Kelly isn't unbeatable anymore. He lost a bunch of quarterfinals this year and missed opportunities where he could have caught up to Gabriel. I definitely think that when you see someone your age accomplish something, it makes it seem more attainable. But I'm sure everybody is thinking that right about now, so it's gonna be interesting this year.



PHOTO BY GRAMBEAU

Hot 100 Women

Number 1

2015

AT JUST 20 YEARS OLD, TYLER WRIGHT FINISHED SECOND ON THE WOMEN'S WORLD TOUR. BUT IF SHE'S GOING TO WIN A WORLD TITLE IN 2015, SHE'S GOING TO DO IT HER OWN WAY

By Ashtyn Douglas

No one wants to draw Tyler Wright in a heat, and for good reason. After qualifying for the Women's World Tour in 2011 at 16 years old, she's never finished outside the top five, and she's come in second for the title the last two years. But for someone who looks so serious on paper, Wright isn't taking competition too seriously.

"I've had some really fun heats to start the year—until I hit a pool!" laughs Wright. "I'm such a peanut sometimes."

TYLER WRIGHT



The rock pool in question fronts the break at Cronulla in New South Wales, and Wright got to know it intimately after getting caught inside and slammed into it repeatedly during her heat at the Australian Boardriders Battle. Many people would be emotionally (and physically) scarred by this experience, but Wright laughs it off. She grew up with three brothers who have helped shape her no-holds-barred approach to surfing, and she's learned to embrace risks and not take herself too seriously.

That mentality has allowed Wright to shine in everything from square P-Pass barrels to Huntington Beach wind chop. "It makes for super-exciting clashes when we come up in heats together," says Sally Fitzgibbons. "You can't pin her to one game plan. She is always in tune with the conditions, which allows her to adapt to any type of wave and have great variety in her performances."

Like John Florence or Kelly Slater, Wright's unpredictability is what makes her so fun to watch. When you see her stomping frontside airs, slob grabs, and laybacks with ease, it makes you wonder where she will take her surfing next. "Backflips," jokes Wright. "Do you have John John's number?" (At least I think she's joking.)

Potential backflips aside, what else can we expect to see in 2015 from the best 20-year-old female surfer in the world? Improved competitive savvy? More trips to the podium? A world title? "I came in second twice; I'd like to win," Wright explains. "But people put a lot of pressure on you to think about winning a world title. The perception is that if you want to win one, you have to focus on it and base everything you do around it. But that theory doesn't really fly with me. As long as I'm having fun and enjoying my surfing, then whatever happens, happens."

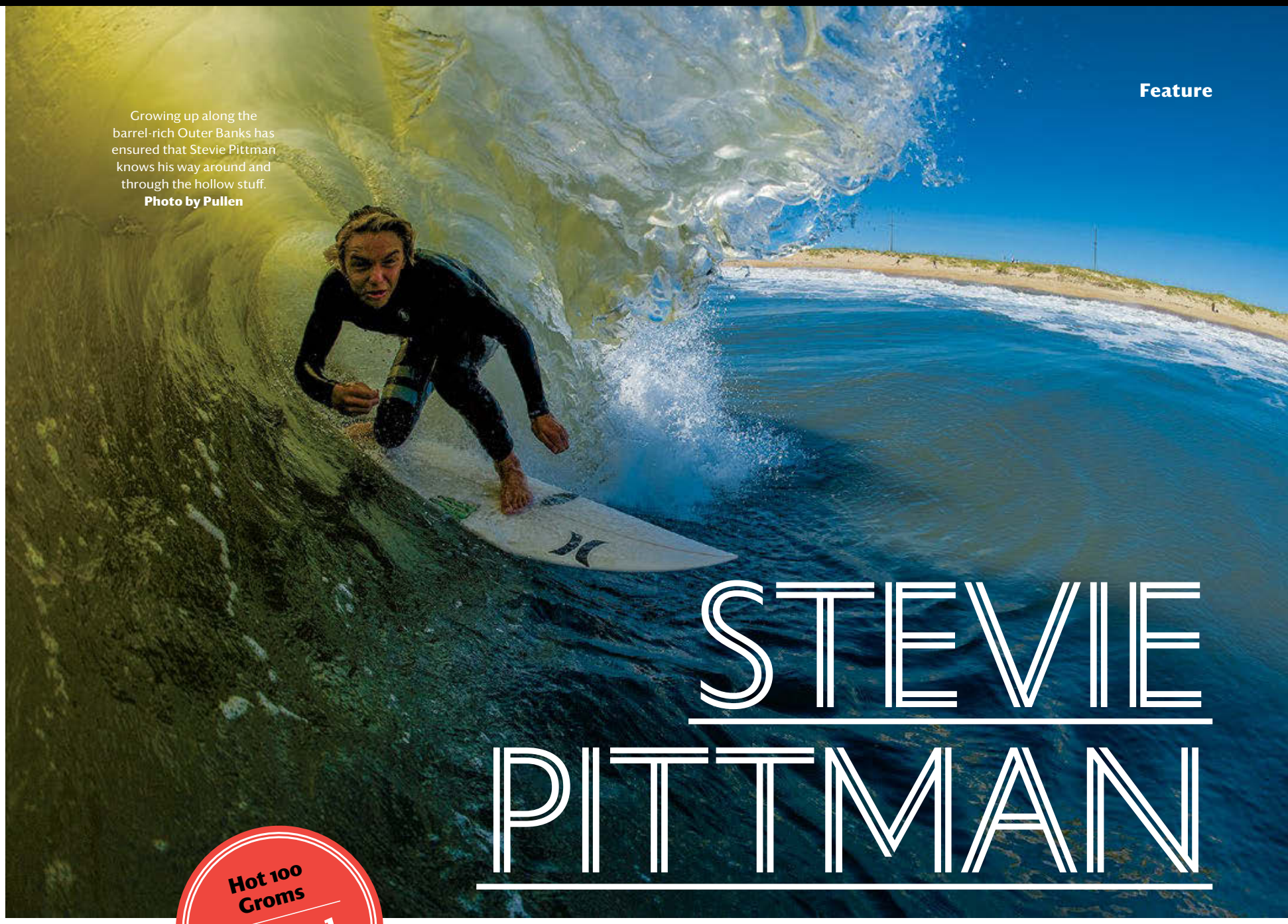
That attitude could explain why even her fellow world-title contenders like having her around. "She's really good at balancing being competitive in the water and letting it all go and being an awesome person on the beach," says two-time world champ Carissa Moore.

We've come to expect world champions to be hyper-focused, steely competitors in the vein of Slater and Fanning. But in Wright's mind, it doesn't have to be that way. They say the best surfer is the one having the most fun, and by that standard Wright wants to be the best. But she still wants a world title, just to make it official.

"The perception is that if you want to win a world title, you have to focus on it and base everything you do around it. But that theory doesn't really fly with me. As long as I'm having fun and enjoying my surfing, then whatever happens, happens." *Tyler Wright*



Tyler Wright has already racked up four World Tour event wins and has finished second for the world title twice. Whether she eventually becomes a world champion or not, Wright has already become one of the most dynamic surfers of her generation.
Photo by Grambeau



Growing up along the barrel-rich Outer Banks has ensured that Stevie Pittman knows his way around and through the hollow stuff. **Photo by Pullen**

STEVIE PITTMAN

Hot 100 Groms Number1 2015

STEVIE PITTMAN MAY BE ONLY 14, BUT AFTER A MASSIVE GROWTH SPURT, HIS SURFING IS MORE THAN CHILD'S PLAY
By Brandt Hart

If you want to feel extremely inadequate about your own surfing abilities, go online and find one of North Carolina native Stevie Pittman's web edits. What you'll see is a 14-year-old man-child with style to burn, capable of threading deep Outer Banks barrels, punting high above the lip, and displacing more water than surfers twice his age.

Pittman first put feet to wax at 3 years old and developed a fiery competitive drive shortly thereafter. He's making ripples in the surf world today thanks to a string of dominant performances, racking up a laundry list of big wins that includes titles in the U.S. Championships Under 16, NSSA Championships Explorer Boys, and NSSA Eastern Championships Explorer Boys divisions as well as the NSSA Championships Open Juniors Air Show.

When you look at the field of adolescent rippers, with the exception of maybe Barron Mamiya, Pittman quite literally stands above the rest. While most are still struggling to throw their weight around because, well, they have no weight to throw, Pittman looks like Andre the Giant in comparison. He's added more than 3 inches and 25 pounds to his frame in the last year, which is the difference between tiny tailslides and beastly hacks in the grom world.

"It made it difficult to get comfortable with a board because I was always needing to change the dimensions," says Pittman. "But in the end, I think it really helped me."

But Pittman's newfound power isn't without its own pitfalls. He injured his knee in Barbados recently and spent months out of the water while rehabbing. While he wasn't happy to lose his momentum, he's optimistic about getting back in the water and continuing his progression.

"I've been working really hard and training," says Pittman. "I'm focused on doing well in contests this year and getting some good footage on surf trips."

Pittman's passport is already filled with the kind of destinations that most surfers salivate over. Four of his 14 winters were spent surfing in Puerto Rico, he's journeyed to El Salvador, Ecuador, Samoa, and the North Shore, and he's made it a goal to become comfortable in waves of consequence. As an East Coast kid, Pittman knows that he has to go the extra mile if he wants to stay sharp during the flat spells in his hometown.

"Maybe we have to work a little harder to get waves than the kids in California do," says Pittman. "But that makes succeeding feel so good, and on the East Coast we take a lot of pride in that."

Pittman will be back to full health soon enough, and you'll find him living up to his surname by locking in some tube time along the Outer Banks sandbars. He'll return to competition and try to squeeze more trophies onto his parents' already crowded mantle. But Pittman is still just a kid, and despite his drive to succeed in the water, he's not trying to get too ahead of himself.

"I'm going to keep surfing and see where it takes me," he says. "I want to make a career out of it, but it's always good to have a backup plan and a good education."



05

Men
Matt Banting

After a string of commanding performances on the Qualifying Series, including two event wins, Banting had all the momentum he needed to break onto the 2015 World Tour as the top-rated rookie. **Photo: Shield**

EXPO=SURE



10

Men
Jack Robinson

For a small-town kid from rural Western Australia, Robinson has no trouble handling the spotlight. And with such freakish natural ability, that's where he belongs. Photo: Frieden

04

Groms
Finn McGill

As hard as it is to admit, McGill has already gone on more surf trips, packed bigger barrels, and boosted higher airs than most of us ever will, and he's only 14 years old. **Photo: Matthews**





25

Men
Griffin Colapinto

When he's not dominating in a contest singlet, Colapinto is often spotted at tropical reef passes, working on his tube riding and raising the bar for his peers. **Photo: Craig**

06

Men
Creed McTaggart

In recent years we've seen McTaggart evolve into this generation's consummate freesurfer. He's traversing the globe, scoring perfect waves, and making stunning video parts in the process.
Photo: Matthews



03

Men
Noa Deane

After numerous magazine covers, a barrage of Web edits and video parts, and two Surfer Poll awards, 2014 was clearly Noa Deane's year. Few people have impacted surfing as quickly as Deane has, and he shows no signs of slowing down. **Photo: Shield**







02

Men
Filipe Toledo

This past year, Toledo solidified his reputation as the World Tour's most progressive aerialist while simultaneously proving that he can handle himself in more serious waves as well. As he continues to round out his act, he'll continue to climb the ranks on Tour. **Photo: Frieden**

07

Men
Parker Coffin

He can put it together in a heat and take it apart during a freesurf. He's as capable throwing himself over the ledge as he is throwing himself above the lip. If Parker Coffin isn't well rounded, then no one in the Hot 100 is. **Photo: Glaser**

13

Men
Seth Moniz

As the son of a Hawaiian ripper, with three incredibly talented siblings and the support of an entire island, Seth Moniz has everything he needs to be Hawaii's next elite surfer.
Photo: Craig



02

Women
Lakey Peterson

Hard work pays off and nobody knows this better than Peterson. She takes her job as a World Tour surfer seriously, trains hard, and is constantly upping both her power and progressive repertoire. **Photo: Kessel**







04

Men
Koa Smith

After winning the 2014 Surfer Poll Best Barrel award for what was arguably the best barrel ever, you can count on Smith to continue logging more tube time than anyone else his age.
Photo: Lowe-White

16

Men
Mikey Wright

Good surfing is in the Wright family DNA, and Mikey is no exception. He knows exactly what to do when presented with a solid barrel, or a wedgy hair section...er...air section. Seriously, he could lose the mullet, though. **Photo: Shield**



03

Women
Nikki Van Dijk

With her rookie year behind her, Van Dijk has learned what it takes to compete at the sport's highest level. She's powerful, consistent, and poised to climb the ranks in 2015.
Photo: Grambeau

#dakinetrusted

the Ian Gentil Pro Model Pad

PHOTO: ERIK AEDER

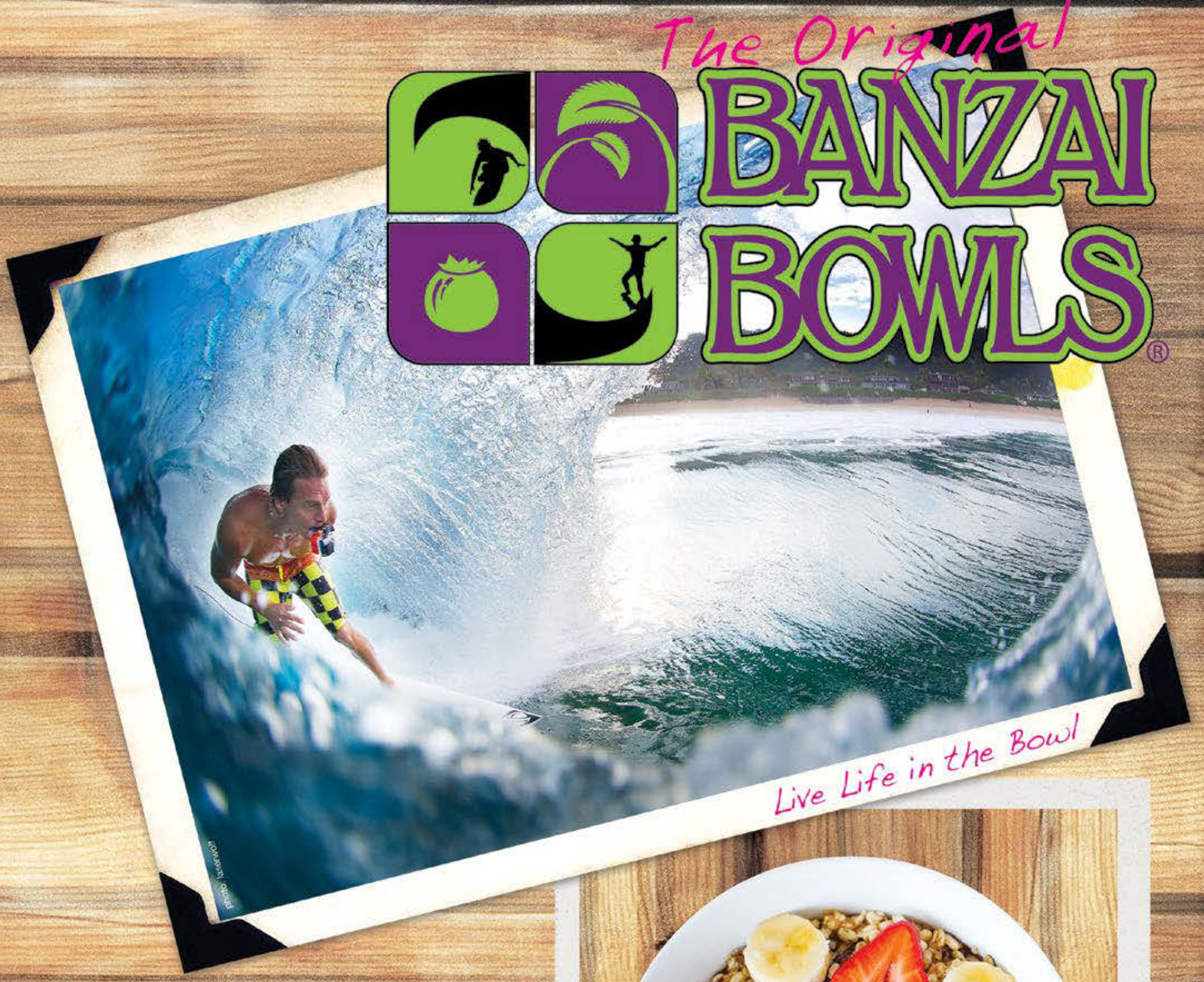

DAKINE
@dakine_surf



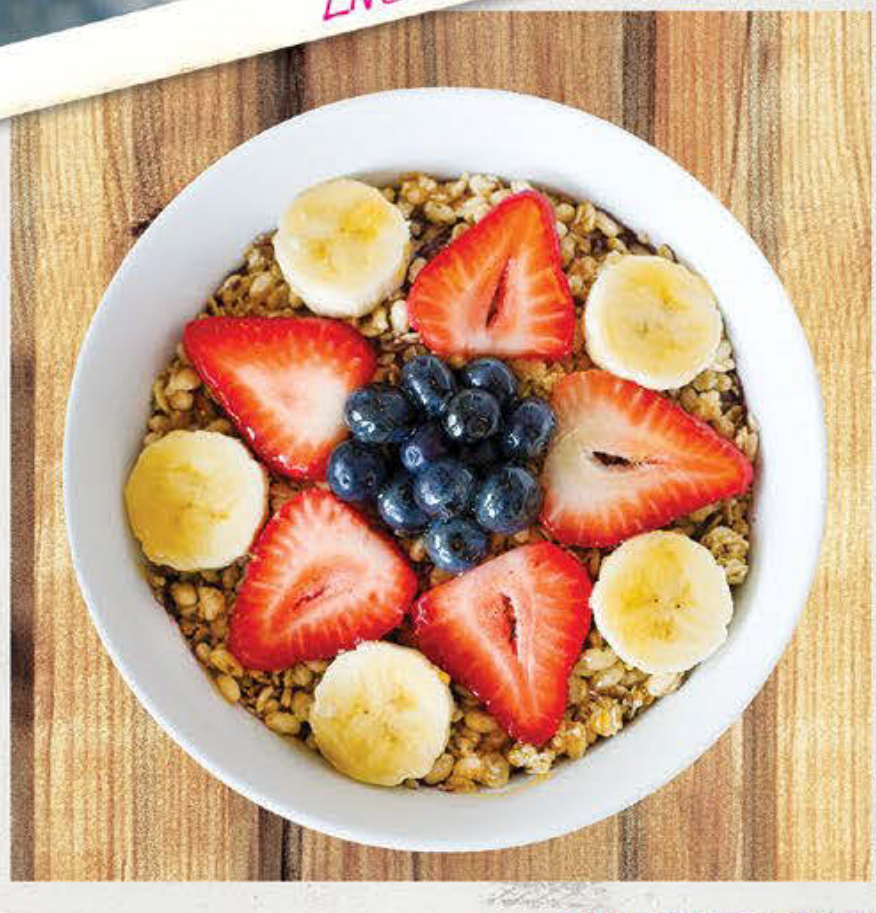
Parker Coffin in the Mod-Tech Pro Boardshort
Shot by Tom Carey
volcom.com

The Original

BANZAI BOWLS®



[CHRIS **WARD**]



featured bowl: DIAMOND HEAD

WWW.BANZAIBOWLS.COM

REGULAR DOMIN

Photo by Joli

REGULAR-FOOTERS
ON TOUR WITH A WIN AT BELLS

KELLY SLATER 4×
MICK FANNING 3×
JOEL PARKINSON 3×
ADRIANO DE SOUZA 1×
TAJ BURROW 1×

Last goofy-footed champ? Occy in '98

Who will you put on your Fantasy Surfer team? **Sign up› fantasysurfer.com**

Next Event
RIP CURL PRO
Bells Beach, Victoria, AUS
April 01 — 12

FANTASY SURFER

ANCE



Win a trip to the North Shore. ***Grand Prize courtesy of*** TURTLE BAY



Dragon Marquis Matte H2O – Green Ion
This vintage-inspired, Italian made, round-lens design is set off by diamond tail accents on the frame front and bold colors that work for summer days at the beach. The *Marquis* is a new addition to our H2O Floatable Collection, and come with Performance Polar lenses with water and dirt repelling coatings to limit smears and smudges to keep your view crystal clear. A smaller fit style, the *Marquis* is all about detail and premium design. ***dragonalliance.com***



Dragon Vantage Matte H2O – Plasma Ion
A medium-size wrap frame that makes a big splash. As part of our H2O Floatable Collection, the sporty and stylish *Vantage* is purpose-built for all types of aquatic action. Our Performance Polar lenses come with water and dirt repelling coatings to limit smears and smudges to keep your view crystal clear. ***dragonalliance.com***



Billabong Layback Resindue, Shifty X, Spinner Palmdale
Layback Resindue 19": $55, *Shifty X 19":* $60, *Spinner Palmdale 19":* $55 ***us.billabong/mens***



Hurley Phantom Free Sandal
The *Phantom Free* Men's Sandal features the next generation of Nike Free outsole design so you can move how you were meant to. An ergonomic footbed further mimics your foot's natural movement for maximum comfort and all-day wear. $60 ***hurley.com***



Sector 9 Mini Lookout
Why wait for the waves, wind, and tide when you get on your skateboard at any time and get a session going. The 100% Bamboo mid-size cruiser will totally make you surf as good as John, Kelly, or Gabriel. Venus is lining up with your summer, so lick your lips and visit your local shop for your favorite skateboard, a Sector 9. $189 ***sector9.com***



Volcom Horizon Mod, Scowl Up Mod, Opticon Mod
Volcom Mod-Tech Boardshorts are designed by the greatest minds in destruction. Our product is tested and refined in some of the world's harshest environments. And we thought we were just having fun! *Horizon Mod:* $60, *Scowl Up Mod:* $62, *Opticon Mod:* $60 ***volcom.com***



Channel Islands Jordy Smith Signature Hex Cord
The hexagonal cord shape has proven to kink and stretch less than a traditional cylinder-shaped leash. 3/16 comp and 1/4 inch standard diameter. $28–29 ***cisurfboards.com***



Channel Islands Jordy Smith Signature Arch Pad
Medium+ Kick 32mm with 5mm arch bar. $40 ***cisurfboards.com***



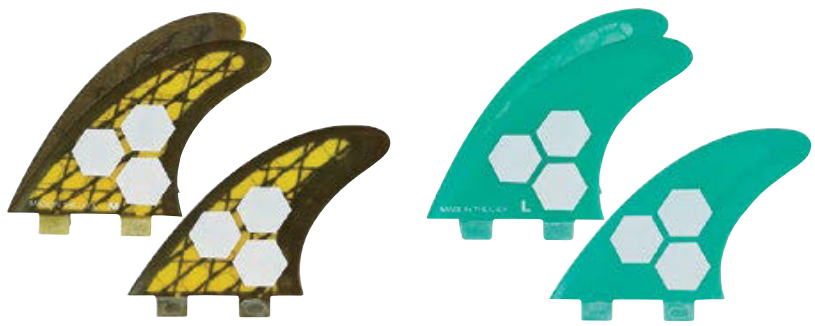
Channel Islands Feather Lite Board Bag
Shortboard and specialty sizing. 3mm padding. $50–56 ***cisurfboards.com***



Channel Islands Travel Pack, Surf Pack
Travel Pack: multiple internal and external accessory pockets. Easy access, side entry, padded laptop compartment (18.5" × 12" × 1.25"). $92 *Surf Pack:* Waterproof roll-top wetsuit compartment. Water resistant, zippered pockets. Organizer, sunglass, wax, and water bottle pockets. $100 ***cisurfboards.com***



Channel Islands Cali Flag Snap Back Hat, Black Flag Snap Back Hat, Hex Ranch 1969 Hat
Cali Flag Snap Back Hat: $26, *Black Flag Snap Back Hat* $25, *Hex Ranch 1969* $22
cisurfboards.com



Channel Islands Channel Islands RTM Tech 3 and Tech 1 Tri- Fin
Al's design creates drive from the rake and base, while allowing pivot with the narrow tips and smaller center fin. Medium and Large sizes. $85–105 ***cisurfboards.com***



Rip Curl Mirage Aggrogame, Mirage MF Driven, Mirage Divide
Made by surfers, for surfers. Each *MIRAGE* Boardshort is developed with the feedback of our elite surf team and constructed to withstand life on the Search.
Aggrogame: $60, *MF Driven:* $65, *Divide:* $60. ***ripcurl.com***



Famous Surf Fillmore Model Traction, EL Rey Model Traction
Famous traction features top quality ultra-light EVA and custom grip pattern to ensure the best grip available. Our traction is lighter and thinner to give better board sensitivity and performance. Famous products are team tested and designed. $39 ***livefamous.com***



Electric Mainstay
The *Mainstay* lives where form and function collide. Amazingly light and extremely tough, this featherweight can hold its own. California design. Handcrafted in Italy. $120 ***electriccalifornia.com***



Indo Board Balance Trainer Indo Original Training Package with Robert August Art
Dangerously fun balance training guaranteed to improve your surfing! Used by 2× ISA World Champion Team Hawaii, Team USA, Team UK, Team Italia, and WCT pros Taj Burrow, Nat Young, John John Florence, Kolohe Andino, Courtney Conlogue, and more! ***indoboard.com***



Epic Surf Racks Self-Standing Surfboard Rack
No holes in the wall. No dings in the quiver. Put it anywhere. Custom options available. ***epicsurfracks.com***



Hitcase Hitcase Pro+ for iPhone 6
Hitcase is a waterproof, shockproof, and mountable case for the iPhone that takes pictures and videos to the next level. Our performance lenses and versatile mounts let you fearlessly share your life with the world. $150 ***hitcase.com***



VonZipper Pinch
Some say that big things come in small packages. Get a grip and give yourself a *Pinch*, because this modern classic is too good to be true. ***vonzipper.com***



VonZipper Dipstick
A device of measure and special purpose, the *Dipstick* is a performance piece ensuring lubrication. ***vonzipper.com***.



VonZipper Donmega
An honorific of utmost proportions, the *Donmega* doesn't play second to nobody or nothin'. ***vonzipper.com***



VonZipper Banner
Unfurl this hallmark and hoist it for all to see. This coat of arms is a proud symbol of individuality. Fly your flag in *Banner* sunglasses. ***vonzipper.com***.



VonZipper Psychwig
Pattern your social behavior abnormally and deviate towards illogical fashion. Your *Psychwig* will dictate and create your own individual perception of reality with inferences of cognitive bias. ***vonzipper.com***



VonZipper Supernacht
Bending the light into dark, blurring the lines between ridiculous and sublime. The *Supernacht* transcends the solstice with a total eclipse of the heart. ***vonzipper.com***.



Perfect Bar
Touted as the freshest nutrition bars ever created, be sure to look for *Perfect Bar* in the fridge at your favorite grocery stores. Certified organic and non-GMO, every *Perfect Bar* flavor recipe comes loaded with 20+ organic superfoods. Fair warning: these bars are addicting! ***perfectbar.com***



Vissla Front Zip Wetsuit Jacket, Petaluma Boardshort, Cutback Boardshort
The process of upcycling converts waste into want. In making these garments, coconut husks and plastic bottles were upcycled into high quality odor-resistant, fast-drying fabrics that you can wear and enjoy. ***vissla.com***



OTIS Test of Time
A timeless, vintage-inspired piece. This frame takes inspiration from the iconic glasses worn by Hollywood stars of the '70s. Color shown: Matte Amber Tortoise/Tropical Brown Mineral Glass Lens. $180 ***otiseyewear.com***



OTIS Missing Pieces
A bold and masculine design, this frame keeps things casual yet smart. Color shown: Gloss Black/Cool Gray Mineral Glass Lens. Polarized. $230 ***otiseyewear.com***



O'Neill Thinskins Hyperfreak L/S Crew Jacket
The *Thinskins Hyperfreak* Series features our Exclusive TechnoButter material, now lighter and more buttery than ever, 20% lighter with 30% less water absorption. The Thinskins Series defines functional warm water gear. Reversible 1.5mm Jacket: $100 ***oneill.com/wetsuits/***



Alpinestars Flow, Quest
Alpinestars spring boardshorts deliver performance fit and shorter inseams with the 8-way stretch *Flow* and the 4-way stretch *Quest*. $72, $64 ***alpinestars.com***



Quiksilver AG47 New Wave Bonded Boardshort
Featuring laser cut, heat-welded seams and Dry Flight 4-way stretch fabric made from recycled polyester and treated with durable water repellent, this is the most advanced boardshort Quiksilver has ever made. ***quiksilver.com***



Quiksilver Street Trunk Yoke
A new category introduced by Quiksilver for Spring 2015, *Street Trunks* combine boardshort styling with walkshort function. ***quiksilver.com***



Patagonia Reversible Mamala Bikini Top, R1® Surf Short
The *Reversible Mamala* bikini top has adjustable, contrasting color ties at the neck and fixed spaghetti straps across the center back for a secure fit. Reversible for increased versatility and style. $55 Made from high-quality neoprene that meets Patagonia's rigorous standards for stretch, strength and warmth, the new, high-performance *R1® Surf Short* provides an alternative to swimwear bottoms when you're paddling out into perfect warm-water surf. $59 ***patagonia.com***



Raen Vale
Rising for those early morning surf checks, or heading over the mountain to catch the sunset, the *Vale* is the perfect companion. $125 ***raen.com***



Carver Skateboards Flying Manta
Sean Mattison of Von Sol surfboards worked closely with Carver to make a skateboard that feels like his *Flying Manta* surfboard, a fast-pumping little 5 fin. Watch Sean's latest surf-skate training vid on our website to see it in action, and for a limited time, you can get a custom black CX truck set for the same price as the raw trucks. $222 ***carverskateboards.com***



Roark The Savage
Need we say more? *The Savage* boardshort explains itself. It's our highest performance and most functional boardshort. Built with welded zipper, welded inseams, and welded hem. Features 20" 4-way stretch, 100% poly. It's also named after the bar in Roark's warehouse. ***roark.com***



Oakley Sliver
With a sleek design, *Sliver*™ takes advantage of our lightweight yet highly durable O Matter™ frame material while XYZ Optics® filter out 100% of all UV rays. Matte Brown Tortoise with Warm Gray. $120 ***oakley.com***



Landyachtz Dinghy Cats
This mini cruiser offers tight-carving, maneuverable fun in a small and lightweight package. It will let you skate whatever you want, whenever you want. Better your life by taking a *Dinghy* everywhere you travel this year. Deck: $51, Complete: $129 ***landyachtz.com***



Dakine Blockhead Boardshort, Polebender Short, Polebender Jacket
Blockhead Boardshort: 21" out seam, lightweight, 4-way stretch, Comfort Close Fly® with no-rash internal binding and minimal hook and loop. $55 *Polebender Short:* The ultimate fishing short! Teflon® stain/oil/water resistant coating, pockets for all your tools, and a waterproof stash pouch in cargo pocket! $70 *Polebender Jacket:* Durable Water Repellant (DWR) treated polyester. Vented back panel for max breathability, reflective piping and logo details for increased visibility and safety. $125 ***dakine.com***



Landyachtz Bamboo Pinner
Simple construction and a classic shape make the Landyachtz *Bamboo Pinner* a timeless board. Natural flex, rocker and soft-top grip make this pintail carve smoothly and surf any concrete wave. Deck: $100, Complete: $185 ***landyachtz.com***



D'Blanc Anonymous Club, Evil Twin
Reminiscent of a mid-century ski glass, the *Anonymous Club* features a geometric frame and a round lens shape. Simple yet refined, the *Evil Twin* evokes classic lines inspired by '60s styling. Made in Italy. ***dblanc.com***



Landyachtz Switchblade 38
This symmetrical freeride board features a dropped foot platform, drop-through truck mounting, specialized concave and foot pockets for increased leverage and control. The *Switchblade* now features lightweight all-Maple Hollowtech construction and is available in three sizes. Deck: $125, Complete: $262 ***landyachtz.com***



House Of Marley Liberate BT
Clean industrial design creates the perfect soundstage whether on a table, desk, or beach towel. Rugged REWIND™ fabric covering and two-layer grill design to protect your sonic investment while Bluetooth connectivity allows wireless transmission from hundreds of personal devices in this minimalist monster. $100 ***thehouseofmarley.com***



House Of Marley Legend ANC Headphones
Legend ANC is standalone in style, comfort, and performance. With the added feature of Active Noise Canceling technology, you won't hear anything outside of the music. And the high-definition 40mm drivers bring your favorite soundtrack to life with ultra-realistic acoustics, premium craftsmanship, and high-end design. Go ahead, get noisy. $300 ***thehouseofmarley.com***



House Of Marley Get Together
Wirelessly stream music with the *Get Together* portable audio system. This modern Bluetooth boom box comes with a built-in rechargeable battery and convenient 3.5mm input making it easy to connect with hundreds of devices and fire up your tunes whenever and wherever you need. $200 ***thehouseofmarley.com***



House Of Marley One Foundation
Welcome to the new standard for all-in-one home audio. *One Foundation's* slim design and stunning solid oak front baffle allow perfect integration into any home or office décor, while our painstaking engineering fills any room with serious sound. Two 1-inch Danish-designed silk-dome tweeters hold up the top end. Meanwhile, twin 5.25-inch, wood-fiber impregnated/pressed-fiber cones housed in a custom-tuned bass-reflex enclosure hold things down. Waaaaaaay down. Hear the details hiding in your music with this 220-watt, stereo, two-way system. If your ears could slap high fives, they would. Dimensions: 8.75" H × 31.06" W × 4.56" D. $1,000 ***thehouseofmarley.com***



Matuse Hoplite 2mm Full

The Hoplite foot soldiers of ancient Greece had the most advanced armor of their era. They were fast, fierce, and well protected. Modern-day surfers can now own these same qualities by wearing a Matuse *Hoplite* suit. No spear or shield necessary. ***matuse.com***



Vans NF Boardshort

Vans partners with long-time team rider Nathan Fletcher to launch his signature *NF Boardshort*. Vans' latest technical model introduces the new Sturdy Stretch technology, a versatile 4-way stretch fabrication that achieves a balance between in-water performance and out of water wearability. ***vans.com/boardshorts***



Matuse Miriam

The *Miriam* is made from 1mm and 2mm Geoprene. Fitting, flexible, and reversible, the *Miriam* is the most Ichiban form of warm-water sun protection for summer 2015. ***matuse.com***



On The Wall Racks Horizontal & Vertical Surfboard Wall Racks

Buy online or at your surf shop! These are the best clear acrylic wall rack sets available, complete with anti-ding pads and hardware! Models to fit any desired hang, including models for SUP/skateboards/skimboards and more. $70 ***onthewallracks.com***



Matuse June

Made from 2mm Geoprene, the *June* is reversible and specifically engineered so that its "straps" do not cover the back of the neck. On this note, the *June* provides top-notch comfort in and out of a wetsuit. ***matuse.com***



Orca Publications Advanced Surf Fitness, The Longboard Travel Guide

Wanna catch more waves than the next guy? *Advanced Surf Fitness* will show you how. $25 *The Longboard Travel Guide* describes 100 of the best longboard spots on the planet. Out in May. $25 ***amazon.com***



Sun Bum Signature Series Sunscreen
Premium Zinc Oxide Formula sunscreen, lotions, and sticks. Trusted by Julian Wilson, Malia Manuel, Zak Noyle, Hawaiian Water Patrol, and Noa Mizuno. Available at local surf shops. $13–$18 ***trustthebum.com***



Goofboard Freestyle Balance Board
Finally a GoofBoard designed for shortboard surfers. Like the original, the *Freestyle* rides rail-to-rail but also rides nose-to-tail. The pipe has optimum slip/grip ratio (no grip tape means more freedom). ***goofboard.com***



SUPERbrand Unit Surfboard, Unit Tee, Backyard Boardshort
Built for speed and agility, the *Unit Surfboard* is a small wave assault weapon. With a curvy outline, rocker and concave combo, it delivers an exceptional balance of drive and control in the pocket, on the face, and off the lip. The *Unit Tee* is based on the art from the 2015 Unit Surfboard. The 19" outseam *Backyard Boardshort* features a 2-way stretch. ***superbranded.com***



RinseKit
RinseKit is a portable, pressurized shower. With no pumping and no batteries, it holds two gallons of hot or cold water and delivers a pressurized spray for up to four minutes. ***rinsekit.com***



Tonic
Replenish crunchy post-surf hair with *Luster* leave-in conditioner. Wash off that wetsuit stank and enjoy a refreshing tingle with *3Some*, the ultimate all-in-1 shampoo, conditioner, and body wash. $12–$14. ***tonicshop.com***



Nectar I.P.A.
Our newest edition to the 2015 collection is the *I.P.A.* This stylish look is fun, lightweight, and always down for a good time. The round-eye frame delivers that eclectic feel and is offered in multiple colorways. $25 ***nectarsunglasses.com***



Sunski Dipsea – Black/Gold
Named after our favorite hiking trail near San Francisco, the *Dipsea* embodies the exciting mix of city and the outdoors. Designer quality frames, polarized lenses, custom traveling case, incredible price. 1% for the Planet. $55 ***sunskis.com***



Sunski Taraval – Rubberized Black/Aqua
Inspired by the relentless lines of Ocean Beach, the *Taraval* is the muscular, athletic silhouette of the Sunski family. Designer quality frames, polarized lenses, custom traveling case, incredible price. 1% for the Planet. $58 ***sunskis.com***



Sunski Dipsea – Marine/Slate
Named after our favorite hiking trail near San Francisco, the *Dipsea* embodies the exciting mix of city and the outdoors. Designer quality frames, polarized lenses, custom traveling case, incredible price. 1% for the Planet. $55 ***sunskis.com***



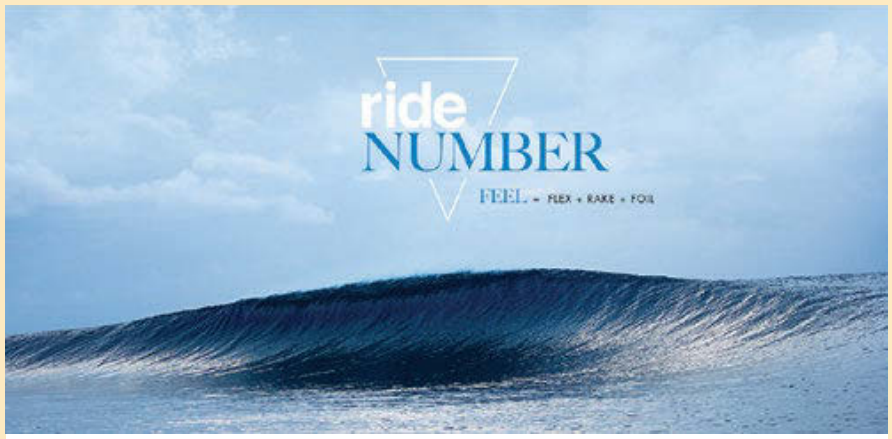
Sunski Taraval – Rubberized Tortoise/Amber
Inspired by the relentless lines of Ocean Beach, the *Taraval* is the muscular, athletic silhouette of the Sunski family. Designer quality frames, polarized lenses, custom traveling case, incredible price. 1% for the Planet. $58 ***sunskis.com***



Sunski Dipsea – Tortoise/Emerald
Named after our favorite hiking trail near San Francisco, the *Dipsea* embodies the exciting mix of city and the outdoors. Designer quality frames, polarized lenses, custom traveling case, incredible price. 1% for the Planet. $55 ***sunskis.com***

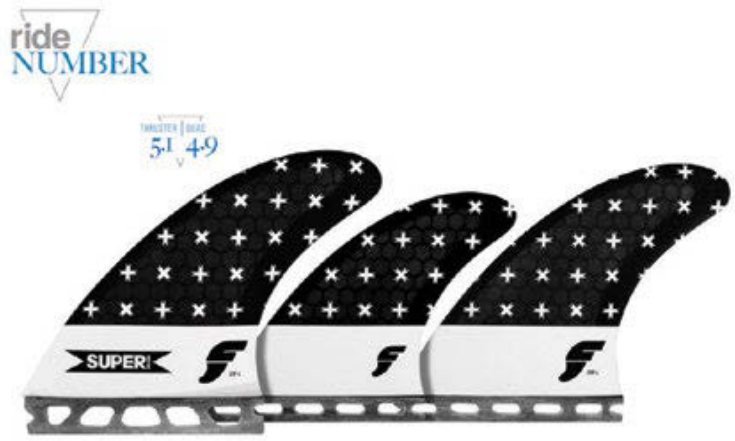


Sunski Taraval – Black/Black
Inspired by the relentless lines of Ocean Beach, the *Taraval* is the muscular, athletic silhouette of the Sunski family. Designer quality frames, polarized lenses, custom traveling case, incredible price. 1% for the Planet. $58 ***sunskis.com***



Futures Ride Number

Introducing the Ride Number, a performance scale that rates our fins from 1 to 10, simplifying the selection process. A fin that is a 10 is *Speed Generating*, and will feel springy, fluid, and responsive. A fin that is a 1 is *Speed Controlling*, and will feel solid, engaged, and predictable. A fin that is a 5 is *Balanced*, and will offer you feelings from both extremes. Determine your size range, determine if you need to create speed, control speed or want an all-around feel, and find your Ride Number. ***futuresfins.com/ridenumber***



Futures Super 5-Fin

For the first time, Super Brand and Futures are releasing a fin collaboration. This new 5-Fin set is a great option for guys looking for fins with more surface area in a size large. Intended to be ridden as a quad or a thruster, this combination of fins is the perfect addition to your summer quiver with a *Balanced* Ride Number of 5.1 for the thruster and 4.9 for the quad. ***futuresfins.com***



Futures Blackstix 3.0 (F4, EA, F8)

For ten years, Blackstix fins have been a staple in the Futures line as a reliable fin that will generate speed and make your board feel livelier in less powerful surf. The new *Blackstix 3.0* are designed with new materials and our engineered V2 foil for an enhanced ride, resulting in Ride Numbers in the *Speed Generating* range of 10 to 7 in small, medium and large. ***futuresfins.com/blackstix***



Futures ...LOST Grom, Medium Thruster, & Large 5-Fin

Brand new for 2015, the ...Lost range of fins by Matt Biolos has been completely updated. New templates in X-small, medium and large sizes have surfers of all varieties covered. Featuring new carbon and honeycomb constructions, these fins deliver enhanced performance resulting in Ride Numbers between 8-6 across the complete offering. ***futuresfins.com***



Futures Blackstix 3.0 Quad Rear Series

With an increasing number of quad & 5-fin boards on the market, the QD2 is now available in three sizes with our BS3.0 construction. Featuring an 80/20 foil combined with resilient carbon fiber, these fins will feel very springy and responsive. Pair these rears with your favorite Blackstix thruster side fins to create the perfect quad combo for your summer surf sessions. ***futuresfins.com/blackstix***



Futures For the Groms (CTG, JJF Grom, HS3)

Futures offers a complete range of high performance Honeycomb fins for the grommets. With a variety of sizes, templates, and foils within the X-small category, there is a new level of performance waiting for the little rippers looking to upgrade their gear for summer. Ride Numbers are between 9-5. ***futuresfins.com***



PHOTO BY MATTHEWS

Here Comes Hot 100 Week

Online Exclusive

The list is definitive, the list is stacked, and, by God, the list is long. Too long, in fact, to fit all the editorial we have on the world's best young surfers into the constraints of a single issue. It's a good problem to have, and we also have a fantastic solution. On March 9, we're kicking off Hot 100 Week on SurferMag.com, where you can find extra content, photos, and videos featuring Koa Smith, Josh and Seth Moniz, Parker Coffin, Lakey Peterson, and more. Find out where surfing's next generation is headed at **SurferMag.com.**

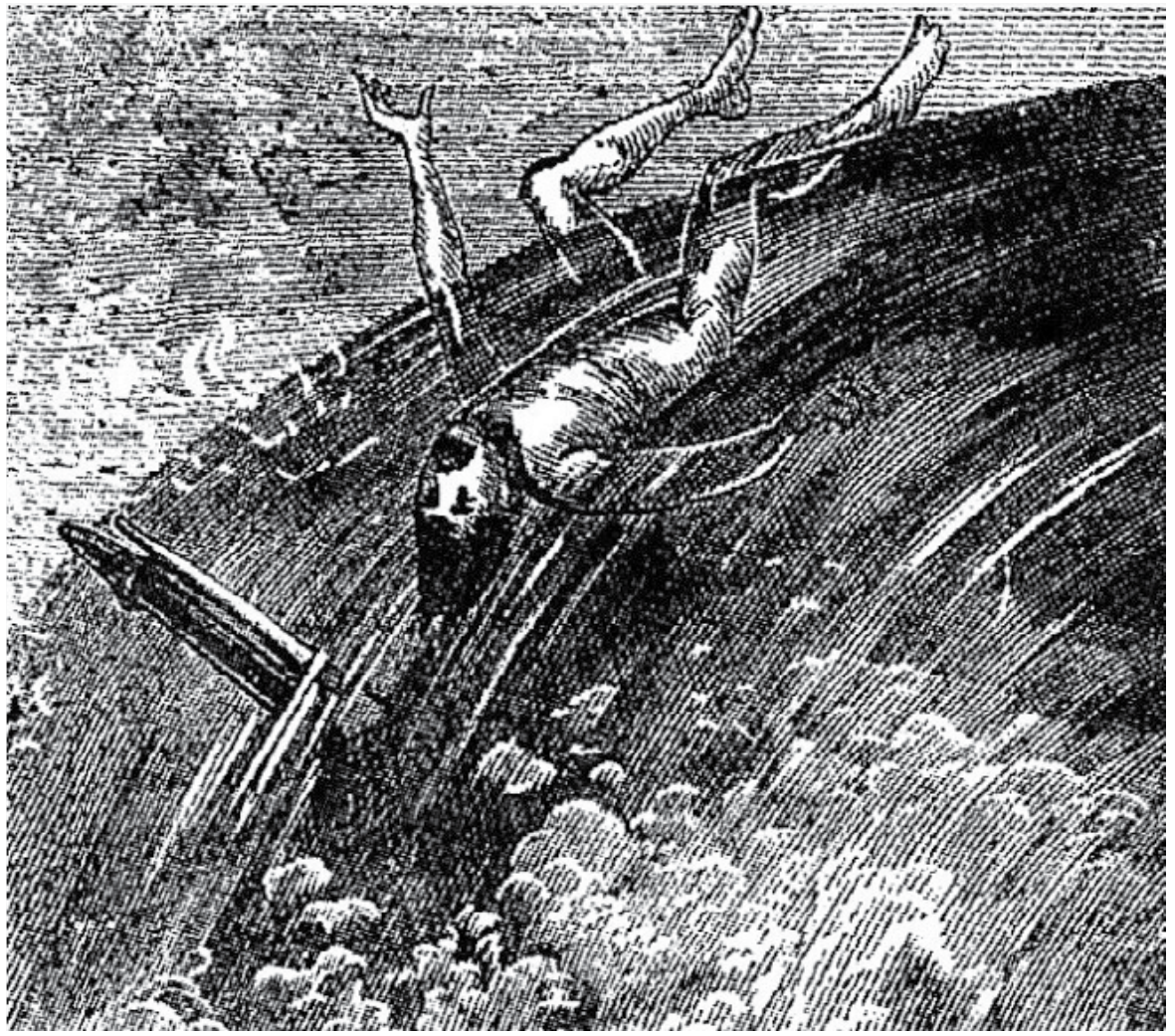
Presented by SURFER

These Days on The Encyclopedia of Surfing

The Encyclopedia of Surfing, that comprehensive and ever-growing online guide to the sport's history, is a treasure trove of obscure factoids. For example, did you know Mark Twain surfed? From a 1872 travelogue he penned:

"I tried surf-bathing once, subsequently, but made a failure of it. I got the board placed right, and at the right moment, too; but missed the connection myself. The board struck the shore in three-quarters of a second, without any cargo, and I struck the bottom about the same time, with a couple of barrels of water in me."

Don't be a kook like Mark Twain. Learn more every day about pretty much anything surf at **EncyclopediaOfSurfing.com**.



GEICO® Motorcycle ENDURO CROSS

MOOSE RACING

TOUGHEST INDOOR OFF-ROAD RACING ON THE PLANET



MARCH 6	› Daytona Beach, FL	OCT 3	› Denver, CO
MARCH 21	› Salt Lake City, UT	OCT 17	› Everett, WA
APRIL 25	› Sacramento, CA	NOV 7	› Boise, ID
MAY 1	› Las Vegas, NV	NOV 22	› Ontario, CA

WATCH ON CBS SPORTS NETWORK

VISIT ENDUROCROSS.COM FOR MORE INFO!

PITS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ALL DAY FREE

MOTORCYCLE SUPERSTORE · FMF · EBC BRAKES · SCORPION EXO · KENDA TIRES · PRO TAPER · Motion Pro · KTM · SCOTT · K&N PERFORMANCE FILTERS · NEXEN TIRE · CycleNews · REKLUSE · ALL ACCESS · Husqvarna MOTORCYCLES · ARC · HMD · ACERBIS

Perfect Day

Photo by Nick Green

PIPELINE, HAWAII

Despite advancements in forecasting technology, when it comes to predicting exactly what the ocean will do from one hour to the next, we've still got a ways to go. Take the afternoon of December 14 at Pipeline, for example. The Pipe Masters had been called off for the day due to poor conditions, but by the afternoon the wind had switched and flawless barrels began rolling across the reef. While some were upset that the event didn't run, surfers like North Shore transplant Jensen Hassett (pictured here) couldn't have been happier that no one saw this coming.

Relative Advantage

Sure, groms are subject to hazing, can't drive themselves to the beach, and miss plenty of swells due to book reports. But when it comes to waves, your chest-high wedge is their triple-overhead cavern. Eight-year-old Kepa Mendia, making the most of gromhood.



PHOTO BY LUGO

Surfer (ISSN # 0039-6036), May 2015, Vol. 56 No. 05. Published monthly by TEN: The Enthusiast Network, LLC, 261 Madison Ave. 6th Floor, New York, NY 10016.
Copyright © 2015 by TEN: The Enthusiast Network Magazines, LLC. All Rights Reserved. Printed in the USA. Periodicals Postage Paid at New York, NY, and at additional mailing offices. Subscription rates for 1 year (12 issues): U.S., APO, FPO and U.S. Possessions $20.00, Canadian orders add $12.00. Foreign orders add $24.00 (for surface mail postage). Payment in advance, U.S. funds only. For a change of address, six weeks' notice is required. Send old as well as new address to Surfer, P.O. Box 420235, Palm Coast, FL 32142-0235. POSTMASTER: Send all UAA to CFS. (See DMM 707.4.12.5); NON-POSTAL AND MILITARY FACILITIES: send address corrections to Surfer, P.O. Box 420235, Palm Coast, FL 32142-0235.


MAKE WAVES
carver
SKATEBOARDS

Mick Fanning

@dragonalliance

THEY FLOAT

H2O FLOATABLE COLLECTION



PERFORMANCE POLAR


Volcom
True To This
Since 1991
Balaram Stack in the Mod-Tech Pro Boardshort
volcom.com/boardshorts



Shot by Tom Carey